

FBIS**DAILY REPORT
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PLO LEADER SHAFIQ AL-HUT MAKES STATEMENT ON U.S. VISIT

JN261543 Doha QNA in Arabic 1500 GMT 26 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Paris, 26 April--Shafiq al-Hut, head of the PLO office in Beirut, has denied reports that his recent tour of the United States was part of a Palestinian-U.S. dialog. He said: On the contrary, the U.S. Government put great restriction on my movements. According to the visa granted to me, the U.S. Government prevented me from doing any information activities, contacting the press or holding press conferences. My visit had to be confined to its purpose of delivering lectures at the American universities of Columbia, Harvard and Princeton.

In a statement published in the Paris-based Arabic magazine AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI, Al-Hut said: The attempt to give my visit a political character is a deliberate exaggeration aimed at portraying the U.S. stand other than it really is. He said that the real U.S. stand is that which imposed restrictions on me. We can conclude from the restrictions the extent of the negative U.S. stand.

Al-Hut said his final impression about his visit is that the United States, despite all its claims, feels more than ever before the importance of the Palestinian factor in the equation of war and peace in the area, particularly now that it has become evident to the United States that its wager on an alternative Palestinian leadership has lost as a result of the decisive stand of our people in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Al-Hut stressed that the U.S. administration is still intransigent in its political stand. It still insists on its stand denying recognition to the PLO until the latter recognizes Resolution 242, which the PLO will not do.

Al-Hut said that former U.S. Senator James Abourezk told him that five senior State Department officials apologized for not attending the dinner banquet given in his honor at Abourezk's house. However, he met with a number of Congressmen, including George McGovern, Paul Findlay and Lee Hamilton.

'ARAFAT SENDS 'URGENT' LETTER TO BREZHNEV 26 APR

JN261853 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1745 GMT 26 Apr 79 JN

["Text" of 'urgent' letter sent by PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev on 26 April]

[Text] Comrade Leonid Brezhnev, greetings of the revolution.

For 5 days the Zionist enemy has been launching land, sea and air aggression against all the concentration areas of our Palestinian Arab people in Lebanon, as well as against all the Lebanese villages and towns located between Beirut and the southern Lebanese border. Facts reveal that this aggression is part of the scheme concocted against our people, revolution and Arab nation.

The attack began after the signing of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty and got fiercer when our Palestinian Arab people unanimously rejected this treaty. At the Baghdad conference, our Arab nation also adopted a unanimous stand rejecting this treaty and condemning those who signed it, headed by the United States.

When our people in the occupied territories expressed through their heroic uprising their rejection of this new plot, the Zionist enemy and the U.S. imperialists announced publicly that they would continue the aggression and annihilation. Their leaders uttered phrases contrary to norms and humanity. Artillery shelling and air and sea raids then began. They then incited their agent traitor Sa'd Haddad to announce independence in a strip of southern Lebanon in a public challenge of the UN resolutions and the whole international community.

When the time for the exchange of the peace treaty documents approached, the Zionist enemy escalated his aggression--as I said--to become comprehensive from air, sea and land. It was directed against unarmed civilians, both Palestinians and Lebanese. The climax of their aggression was on the day fixed for the exchange of peace documents on the soil of occupied Sinai. The U.S. spokesman remained silent before these raids and savage aggression against the Lebanese and Palestinian civilians. This spokesman used to constantly defend the crimes and treacherous aggression of this Zionist enemy.

Thus, comrade chairman, events affirm the soundness of our joint conclusions that the separate peace treaty will not be conducive to peace as they claim. It is a path leading to increased tension in the region and eruption of war in it. The U.S. imperialists' scheme is crystal clear, for they seek to split the front opposing imperialism, Zionism, racism and fascism. They also seek to take our Arab countries one by one, encircle our Palestinian revolution, try to annihilate our people, entrench the Zionist entity, consolidate the U.S. imperialist influence and isolate our Arab nation from its faithful friends and from all forces and peoples that love freedom, progress and peace.

The war currently taking place proves that there can be no peace in our region unless our Palestinian Arab people's aspirations and inalienable rights to repatriation, self-determination and establishment of their independent national state on their national soil are realized.

The steadfastness of our Palestinian and Lebanese masses in the face of this savage aggression, which has entered its sixth day, foils the colonialists' schemes, exposes the capitulationists' treason, and indicates the racist Zionists' barbarism.

The strong cohesion between the revolutionary forces of the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese nationalist and progressive movement, as well as the sincere support of the fraternal and friendly peoples, headed by the great peoples of the Soviet Union led by Comrade Leonid Brezhnev, the friend of our Palestinian people, and all the socialist countries, will inevitably foil this attack, thwart these schemes and achieve victory.

I send you my wishes for continued good health and happiness.

It is a revolution until victory!

BA'ATH-PATAH COORDINATION COMMITTEE RESUMES MEETINGS IN BEIRUT

JN261707 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 26 Apr 79 JN

[Text] The Joint Coordination Committee between the Ba'th Party and the Palestinian National Liberation Movement, Patah, resumed its work in Beirut today.

The party's delegation was headed by Comrade Na'im Haddad, member of the Ba'th Party National Command and official in charge of the Palestine and Armed Struggle Office. The Patah delegation was headed by Abu Iyad, member of Patah's Central Committee.

Saudi officials have told American journalists that Saudi Arabia will not launch a holy war in order to undermine President Carter's hopes for a comprehensive peace between the Arabs and Israel. These officials said that in the past 2 years President Carter has secured a major achievement in favor of the Arabs and against Israel. They pointed out that Menachem Begin's boasting that he will not return a single grain of sand to Egypt has proved meaningless as he has now returned the whole of Sinai to Egypt. Observers, however, point out that Saudi Arabia is adopting a wait-and-see attitude toward peace efforts in the Middle East.

But what could be the reasons for the present mutual understanding between Riyadh and Washington?

The observers point out that Saudi Arabia and the United States have reached an understanding in principle regarding the Soviet plans in Africa and the Middle East. They say that presidential security adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski, who visited Riyadh prior to the signing of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty, told Saudi Crown Prince Amir Fahd that Soviet strategy in Africa is ominously dangerous and threatens a rift between the United States and its friends in the area.

Regarding peace efforts in the Middle East, Brzezinski told Fahd that the United States intends to make Israel come forward with a solution for the Palestinian problem and that this was a personal pledge by Carter. Riyadh quarters said that the Saudis are confident that Carter will fulfill the pledges which they have accepted from Brzezinski and which he made without being pressured in the least. Observers who visited Riyadh recently said that the Saudis will not wait indefinitely and that if Israel continues to resist U.S. pressures, then Saudi Arabia will consider this as evidence of the impotence of U.S. power and will. They said that they made it clear to President Carter through Brzezinski that he will be the loser if he tries to turn the tide against them.

Sources in Riyadh said that Brzezinski had gently asked the Saudis to support the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty, unlike the manner in which the United States dealt with Riyadh following the Arab oil ban on the West and the United States following the October War. In that year Secretary of State Kissinger served on Saudi Arabia a strongly-worded two-point ultimatum: first, that the United States will not be responsible for the safety of the oil resources and, second, that it will discuss ending its undertakings to defend Saudi Arabia against any foreign attack.

U.S. sources recently disclosed this ultimatum which had not had the least effect on the oil ban on the United States. However, Saudi-U.S. relations returned to normal after the ban.

It was recently reiterated that the Soviet Union is trying to establish relations with Saudi Arabia. In fact, Soviet sources confirmed this but, nevertheless, the Saudis denied it. But observers point out that relations with the Soviet Union are regarded as a card in Riyadh's hand by which it can influence the Middle East problem in favor of the Palestinian issue. The importance of this card is that within the next 2 years the Soviet Union will, for the first time, become one of the major consumers of oil exported by OPEC countries. During this time Soviet oil production will fall while demand for it from the socialist countries will increase.

Will Washington wait until Moscow becomes its partner in Saudi oil consumption before it exerts any great efforts to solve the Palestine problem?

The delegations discussed the activities of the subcommittees formed during last night's meeting.

Fatah-Ba'th Press Statement

JN261915 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1745 GMT 26 Apr 79 JN

["Text" of press statement issued by the Joint Coordination Committee of Fatah and the Iraqi Arab Socialist Ba'th Party in Beirut on 26 April]

[Text] In implementation of what was agreed upon during the visit to Baghdad of a delegation of the Palestinian National Liberation Movement-Fatah, under Brother Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad; and to strengthen the alliance between the Ba'th Party and Fatah, the Joint Coordination held a meeting at the Fatah Foreign Relations Office in Beirut 25-26 April 1979 at the invitation of Fatah.

The committee meetings were held under Na'im Haddad, Ba'th Party National Command member and official in charge of the Palestine and Armed Struggle Office, and Brother Abu Iyad, Fatah Central Committee member.

The committee discussed the progress in relations between the Ba'th Party and Fatah following the meeting, which was held in Baghdad. Both parties expressed their satisfaction with the positive progress of these relations.

The committee discussed the Arab and international situation in this dangerous stage of the Arab nation after the signing of the treasonous agreement between the Egyptian ruler and the Zionist enemy, carried out with the blessing of and under the supervision of the United States. Viewpoints proved to be identical.

The committee also discussed the latest developments in the Lebanese arena in the wake of Sa'd Haddad's proclamation of his ministate, prodded by the Zionist entity and in implementation of the conspiratorial scheme against Lebanon's unity, its Arabism and national independence; and in the wake of the Zionist aggression against southern Lebanon and the Palestinian refugee camps.

Both parties agreed on the importance of protecting Lebanon's unity and the need for the Arab nation to assume its pan-Arab responsibilities of confronting the Zionist enemy and foiling the treasonous conspiracy whose first consequences are Haddad's ministate.

Several subcommittees stemming from the Joint Coordination Committee are working to achieve the bases for cooperation between both parties in the spheres of information, security and popular organizations. The Joint Coordination Committee reviewed and adopted recommendations of the subcommittees. It was agreed that the joint committee and its subcommittees will meet in Baghdad later.

IRAQI BA'TH PARTY OFFICIAL MEETS PALESTINIAN LEADERS

JN270913 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0717 GMT 27 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Beirut, 27 April--Na'im Haddad, member of the National Command of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, last night met separately with delegations representing the various Palestinian organizations.

He met with a PFLP delegation led by Abu Mahir [Ahmad al-Yamani], member of the PFLP Political Bureau; a PFLP-General Command delegation led by Ahmad Jibril, the Front's secretary general; and a Palestine Liberation Front delegation led by Tal'at Ya'qub, the Front's secretary general.

Haddad also met with a delegation of the Palestine Popular Struggle Front, led by its secretary general, Samir Ghawshah, and a DPFLP delegation led by Abu 'Adnan, member of the Front's Political Bureau.

During these meetings, Haddad discussed the current situation in the region and relations between the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and Palestinian organizations following As-Sadat's signing of the treaty with the Zionist enemy. The aim of the discussions was to strengthen the capacity to resist the plot against the Palestinian cause.

PLO OFFICIAL, SOVIET AMBASSADOR DISCUSS LEBANESE SITUATION

JN261820 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1945 GMT
26 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi], head of the PLO Political Department, met yesterday evening with comrade Aleksandr Soldatov, Soviet ambassador to Lebanon.

During the meeting, which lasted 1 hour, the two sides discussed the latest developments in the region in general and the repeated barbaric Zionist aggression against the camps of our Palestinian and Lebanese people.

The Soviet ambassador affirmed to Brother Abu al-Lutf the Soviet Union's support for the Palestinian people's struggle to restore their rights and establish their independent state on the soil of their homeland. He also expressed continued Soviet support for the Palestinian people in their confrontation of the continuing Israeli aggression.

ARAB ORGANIZATIONS REPORT SUSPENSION OF EGYPT'S MEMBERSHIP

Arab Labor Organization

JN201313 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1235 GMT 20 Apr 79 JN

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 20 April--The board of directors of the Arab Labor Organization [ALO] has decided to transfer ALO headquarters from Cairo to Baghdad on a temporary basis and to suspend Egypt's membership in the ALO in implementation of the Arab foreign and economy ministers conference resolutions.

At the conclusion of its meetings in Baghdad, the ALO board of directors authorized the director general of the Arab Labor Office to take all necessary measures and to make arrangements to implement this decision. It also authorized him to invite the ALO board of directors to convene extraordinary sessions whenever necessary.

The ALO board of directors decided to suspend all the programs and projects which the ALO is currently implementing in Egypt and to suspend all agreements concluded between the Arab Labor Office and As-Sadat's regime.

The ALO board of directors decided to transfer the Arab Labor Office employees, without exception, from Cairo to Baghdad within 3 months from the date of the issuance of this decision.

The ALO board of directors also decided to apply article 50 of the Arab Labor Office Employees Ordinance against any employee who fails to abide by the decision of transfer or submits his resignation at the end of the specified 3-month period. Article 50 stipulates that the employee will be considered discharged if he fails to report to duty for more than 15 consecutive days, unless he submits evidence within the subsequent 15 days that he has an acceptable excuse for not reporting to duty. In this case, the period of absence will be deducted from his ordinary leave.

The ALO board of directors also called for the transfer of the ILO office in Cairo to the new ALO provisional headquarters in Baghdad since the ILO office is the accredited mission to the ALO.

Arab Insurance Group

LD210936 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 21 Apr 79 LD

[Excerpt] The Council of the Arab General Union of Insurance, following its 2-day session in Tunis, decided to suspend the membership of Egyptian companies in the union and to transfer its headquarters from Egypt. The general conference of the union is to hold an extraordinary meeting in May to decide on the new locality for the headquarters and to appoint a new secretary general for the union in place of the present one, whose term has expired.

Arab Agricultural Union

JN221718 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1620 GMT 22 Apr 79 JN

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 22 April--The Executive Council of the Federation of Arab Agricultural Workers has decided to suspend Egypt's membership in the federation and to transfer the headquarters of the federation's General Secretariat from Cairo to Baghdad.

The Executive Council also decided at its meeting here today to discharge Muhtar 'Abd al-Hamid al-Amin from the post of secretary general of the federation and to relieve Muhammad 'Abd al-Khaliq Jawdah, member of the Executive Council and representative of the Egyptian Agricultural Workers Union. The Executive Council also appointed Sabah Muhammad, an Iraqi national, as acting secretary general of the federation until the fourth conference of the federation, scheduled to be held in Baghdad at the end of October 1979.

The Executive Council also issued a final statement denouncing the treaty of humiliation and capitulation signed by traitor As-Sadat with the Zionist entity.

Arab Housing Ministers Conference

JN221719 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1632 GMT 22 Apr 79 JN

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 22 April--The Executive Bureau of the Arab housing and reconstruction ministers has decided to suspend the membership of the As-Sadat regime in the bureau. The Executive Bureau called on the fourth conference of the Arab housing ministers to nominate another Arab country to replace Egypt in the Executive Bureau.

At the end of its meeting here today, the Executive Bureau issued resolutions recommending that the fourth conference of the Arab housing and reconstruction ministers, which will be held in Rabat on 21 June 1979, not allow the As-Sadat regime to attend the conference. It also asked the Moroccan representative not to invite the Egyptian Government to attend the fourth conference in implementation of the resolutions of the Arab foreign and economy ministers conference.

Arab Textiles Industries Federation

JN231424 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1340 GMT 23 Apr 79 JN

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 23 April--The Arab Textiles Industries Federation today decided to suspend Egypt's membership in the federation and to transfer the federation's headquarters from Cairo to Damascus in implementation of the resolutions of the Arab foreign and economy ministers.

At the end of the 2-day meetings of the federation's general assembly, the federation decided to elect 'Adnan Marhun as chairman of the federation, to elect two vice chairmen for the federation and new members of the federation's board of directors, and to expel the federation's secretary general, 'Ali Fahmi, from his post because of his support for the treasonous stands of the Egyptian traitor ruler.

The federation recommended adopting measures necessary to guarantee its rights in its former headquarters in Cairo, including its movable and immovable property. It also decided to request the Arab banks not to allow the federation's former secretary general to withdraw the federation's funds from these banks because this would be illegal.

Arab Iron, Steel Federation

JN231612 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1404 GMT 23 Apr 79 JN

[Excerpt] Damascus, 23 April--The board of directors of the Arab Iron and Steel Companies Federation, currently meeting in Damascus, has decided to freeze the membership of the eight Egyptian companies in the federation. The board of directors also decided to freeze the activities of the federation's regional bureau in Cairo and to open a new bureau in the city of Basra, Iraq.

The board of directors decided to freeze the activities of Fu'ad Abu Saghlah, deputy chairman of the federation's board of directors, who is chairman of the Egyptian Iron and Steel Company, and to appoint Eng Nashuh Malas, director of the Syrian Engineering Industries Corporation, in his place.

In a statement, Sulayman ibn Tubal, chairman of the federation's board of directors, said the decisions are in accordance with the Arab foreign and economy ministers conference resolutions issued in Baghdad late last month.

Arab Banks Federation

JN251900 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1835 GMT 25 Apr 79 JN

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 25 April--The board of administration and the general assembly of the Federation of Arab Banks decided at the conclusion of their meeting here today to suspend Egypt's membership on the board and the membership of Egyptian banks in the federation. They decided to form a special committee to adopt necessary measures on the subject. They also decided to refrain from providing any financial facilities or financial, technical, or administrative assistance to the Egyptian Government and banks.

It was also decided to temporarily transfer the federation's headquarters from Beirut to Abu Dhabi.

KUWAIT

AS-SABAH ON PARLIAMENTARY DEMOCRACY, BIG POWER THREAT

LD261332 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 26 Apr 79 LD

[Excerpts] Crown Prince and Chairman of the Council of Ministers Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah has stressed that executive steps to restore parliamentary life in Kuwait actually began about a year ago with the selection of the committee which will scrutinize the constitution. His highness replied in full to a number of queries in the Kuwaiti Arena put to him by AS-SIYASAH Chief Editor Ahmad al-Jarallah and carried by the paper today.

He said: In Kuwait we are accustomed always to be of open heart and mind. We do not have words for local consumption and words for implementation. He added that the subject of the return of Parliament is a question occupying all our minds since the amiri decree was issued on 29 August 1976, in which the late Shaykh Sabah as-Salam as-Sabah promised to restore parliamentary life within the next 4 years from the date of dissolving the Parliament.

Replying to a question, his highness explained that executive steps for restoring parliamentary life take precedence over all other political measures. The regime's conviction in popular partnership is a traditional conviction. The suspension of the Parliament never constituted a lessening of democratic life or a reduction in its importance as a useful means of work.

His highness explained that official talk about the restoration of parliamentary life is a question of principle and conviction of the Kuwaiti system in popular participation. It is not the product of reaction influenced by any kind of political events, nor the product of influence and local pressure.

Replying to a question as to whether the next Parliament will be a composition of elected and appointed members, his highness said: This picture is a mistake which some of those who portray public affairs questions according to their own whims commit. We did not say this and have not come to a decision on this. The Kuwaiti people make the decision. When the constitutional committee finishes redrafting the constitution, the result of its new work will be submitted to the National Assembly, which will be elected, or this constitution will be put to public referendum. This means that the constitution will be subject to popular approval, whether by Parliament or by direct referendum.

The committee supervising the redrafting of the constitution will produce something which we consider a mere draft subject to amendment or approval by the people of Kuwait.

Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah expressed his belief that there is now a democratic atmosphere. He said: What is important is to benefit from the experience of 14 years and to review the negative and positive points of these parliamentary years full of wrong and right aspects.

Replying to a question, his highness stressed that to speak of a Cabinet reshuffle or the resignation of the government is no more than baseless speculation.

Replying to a question about his impressions of the present regional situation, he stressed that a kind of good coordination among the states of the region, peoples and governments will avert the dangers of the interests of the big powers which sought division and harm for our region. He warned that without solidarity and cohesion the region will live in an atmosphere of great danger--a danger which will affect all.

His highness was asked about the American threats of military intervention in the region. He said that as an official he has nothing solid and official on which he can base an accurate reply. All that was mentioned about the subject came in foreign and Arab papers. But this does not prevent me from repeating our belief that the policy of strength, gunboat diplomacy and the method of threatening with occupation are not wise policies by the big powers and are unacceptable and useless methods.

His highness added that dangers exist especially in the regions important to the big powers. However, these powers' feeling of danger will soon disappear and vanish when mutual understanding among them prevails, thus averting external threats and dangers.

In reply to a question about the size of these dangers to Kuwait itself, he explained that one cannot talk about Kuwait alone. He said that without regional and pan-Arab coordination the foreign powers will continue to work at weakening our side. And for this reason a sense of responsibility is likely to drive many in this region to create and to strengthen coordination among themselves at government and popular levels--many who have their priorities right in removing the threats of the big powers from their countries.

SENEGALESE PRESIDENT SENHOR DEPARTS

LD261142 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 26 Apr 79 LD

[Text] His Excellency President Leopold Sedar Senghor, president of the Republic of Senegal, and the accompanying delegation paid a visit at 0845 today to his highness the amir of Kuwait at his office in As-Sayif Palace.

His Excellency President Leopold Sedar Senghor and the accompanying delegation left via Kuwait International Airport at about 1000 this morning after a brief 1-day visit to Kuwait. He was seen off at the airport by the amir of Kuwait, minister of state for cabinet affairs, and the minister of planning.

OMAN

INA: EGYPT TO SEND 15,000 SOLDIERS TO OMAN

JN260910 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0840 GMT 26 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 26 April--The meetings held yesterday between Sultan Qabus of Oman and Husni Mubarak, As-Sadat's vice president, who arrived suddenly in Muscat, have resulted in an agreement to send soldiers to Oman. These troops will be stationed at three bases.

The Abu Dhabi newspaper AL-WAHDAH reveals today that these bases will be established on Masirah Island and at Ra's Musandam and the air base at (Tamrid) in Dhofar, about 50 km from the PDRY border.

The paper says that an agreement was reached on the type and scope of facilities which the bases at Masirah and Ra's Musandam will extend to U.S. naval forces in the Arabian Sea.

The Omani minister of state for foreign affairs, Qays az-Zawawi, previously visited both Cairo and Washington to coordinate the security efforts of the three countries.

The As-Sadat regime has declared more than once in the past its desire to become the area's policeman to protect U.S. interests.

EGYPTIAN VICE PRESIDENT LEAVES MUSCAT AFTER TALKS

JN262124 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 2040 GMT 26 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Muscat, 26 April--Egyptian Vice President Husni Mubarak left Muscat after a 2-day visit to Oman. During the visit, Mubarak held talks with Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id on relations between the two countries and the current Middle East situation.

EMBASSY IN LEBANON CLOSES AFTER RECEIVING THREATS

NC261745 Cairo DPA in Arabic 1707 GMT 26 Apr 79 NC

[Text] Beirut, 26 April--The Omani Embassy in Beirut has closed down for security reasons. Contrary to most Arab League member states, Oman has maintained its relations with Egypt. The Omani diplomats left the Lebanese capital because they had received threats from circles opposed to the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty.

UAE

ARAB MILITARY INDUSTRIES CHAIRMAN LEAVES FOR SAUDI ARABIA

JN261512 Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1420 GMT 26 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 26 April--Shaykh Faysal al-Qasimi, chairman of the board of directors of the Arab Military Industries Organization [AMIO], left the UAE this morning on a brief visit to Saudi Arabia.

While in Saudi Arabia, Al-Qasimi will meet with Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Saudi minister of defense and aviation and head of the AMIO's Higher Committee. They will discuss matters pertaining to the organization after the UAE, Saudi Arabia and Qatar--members in the organization--severed diplomatic and economic relations with Egypt.

Shaykh al-Qasimi is expected to pay a similar visit to Qatar next week to meet with Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, heir apparent and defense minister. AMIO member states are the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Qatar and Egypt.

YEMEN--PDRY

PDRY SIDE TO JOINT CONSTITUTIONAL COMMITTEE LEAVES SAN'A'

JN261341 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 26 Apr 79 JN

[Text] The delegation members of the South Yemeni side to the joint constitutional committee left San'a' this morning after participating in the meetings of the eighth session of the constitutional committee held in San'a' 21-25 April. They were seen off at the airport by members of the North Yemeni side to the committee.

Yahya Jaghman, personal representative of the president, made a statement to news agency correspondents in which he said: The committee meetings were extremely successful. The two sides' viewpoints were identical as regards the bases on which the unity of the two parts of Yemen can be laid. These bases, he said, are in line with Islamic law.

Brother Jaghman added that the committee reviewed a number of topics that concern Yemenis in the north and south. The committee and other various committees will continue their meetings to attain the desired aim of the unity of the two parts of Yemen on the basis of the people's aspirations for attaining this objective.

Jaghman added: There is no one who stands against unity as a concept, but there are inevitably differing viewpoints. Every citizen and official realizes the need to achieve unity according to his private viewpoint. The state, under the leadership of President Salih, gives a chance to all viewpoints out of a belief in the proverb that many opinions are better than one. We also do so out of our belief in the freedom of opinion granted by our prudent government to every citizen to say whatever he wants and express his opinion, because we live in a democratic state that believes in the need to give a chance to all citizens to express their opinions. The continuing meetings the president is holding with all factions since his return from Kuwait are definite evidence that the president believes in the need for all parties to participate in expressing their concepts of unity.

The personal representative concluded his statement by praising efforts exerted by committee members of the two sides to draw up the concepts and aims that serve Yemeni unity.

Delegation Expresses Satisfaction

ID262216 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 26 Apr 79 LD/EA

[Summary] The constitutional committee of the southern part of the homeland, led by Abdullah Ahmad Ghanim, member of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly, returned to Aden from San'a' today after attending the session of the constitutional committee of the two parts of Yemen, which met from 21 to 25 April.

"In a statement on his return to Aden, Brother Abdullah Ahmad Ghanim said that the meetings of the first 1979 session of the joint constitutional committee were very successful, and a number of achievements on the drawing up of the constitutional articles had been accomplished."

PRIME MINISTER RECEIVES CUBAN FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER

ID062215 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 26 Apr 79 LD/EA

[Summary] Prime Minister 'Ali Nasir Muhammad today received Cuban Foreign Trade Minister Marcelo Fernandez, with whom he discussed ways to strengthen bilateral cooperation. "The brother prime minister appreciated the support extended to Democratic Yemen by the socialist Republic of Cuba and hailed the strengthening of the militant relations of friendship between the peoples and governments of the two friendly countries."

First Round of Talks

ID262216 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 26 Apr 79 LD/EA

[Summary] The first round of official talks between a PDRY delegation led by Agriculture and Agrarian Reform Minister Muhammad Sulayman al-Nasir and Cuban Foreign Trade Minister Marcelo Fernandez opened in Aden this morning. The talks covered bilateral relations in all spheres. "Brother Muhammad Sulayman Nasir hailed Cuba's selfless assistance to our country and noted that it had made an effective contribution to our country's past and present development." During the Cuban delegation's visit, an agreement on cooperation in the fields of agriculture, oil, fisheries, health and industry will be signed.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON DEFENSE MINISTER WEIZMAN'S VISIT

As-Sadat, Weizman Meeting

NC261328 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1322 GMT 26 Apr 79 NC

[Text] Ismailia, 26 April--At noon today President Anwar as-Sadat received Israeli Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman in Ismailia; Weizman is currently on a visit to Egypt.

The meeting was attended by Defense and War Production Minister Lt Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali.

After the 1-hour meeting, Weizman said that his discussion with President as-Sadat had been good and that they had reviewed all the discussions that had taken place since the signing of the two Camp David agreements up to the signing of the peace treaty.

Asked if the talks dealt with the Palestinian issue, Weizman said: We did not discuss this subject.

MENA has learned that during the meeting, 'Ezer Weizman presented to President as-Sadat the details of the phases of the Israeli forces' withdrawal from Sinai, the surrender of the town of Al-'Arish to Egyptian sovereignty on 27 May, and the executive steps for the initial Israeli withdrawal up to the Al'Arish-Ra's Muhammad line in Sinai.

MENA has also learned that Weizman presented to President as-Sadat the details of the subjects he had discussed with Lt Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali during their meeting yesterday.

Weizman Activities

NC261955 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1900 GMT 26 Apr 79 NC

[Text] Alexandria, 26 April--Israeli Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman, his wife, and the delegation accompanying him today toured Alexandria city. Weizman visited the Greek-Roman museum and saw the archeological exhibits there. He and his colleagues then visited the Jewish temple in Alexandria, where he met with the Jews there.

Weizman later visited the yacht club at Ra's at-Tin where he and his colleagues had lunch at the invitation of the naval forces commander, Rear Adm Muhammad 'Ali Muhammad. He visited Al-Muntazah Palace afterward, where he spent some time and then returned to Cairo in the afternoon.

Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil hosted a dinner banquet tonight in honor of 'Ezer Weizman and his wife.

'Ali, Weizman Final Meeting

NC261156 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1130 GMT 26 Apr 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 27 April--The final session of military talks was held at As-Salam Hotel today between Defense and War Production Minister Lt Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali and Israeli Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman.

The meeting was attended on the Egyptian side by Armed Forces Chief of Staff Maj Gen Ahmad Badawi, Chief of Operations Maj Gen Hasan Abu Sa'dah, Defense Ministry Secretary General Maj Gen Fahim Shadid, and official military spokesman Maj Gen Hasan al-Katib. On the Israeli side the meeting was attended by Chief of Strategic Planning Gen Avraham Tamir and chairman of the Israeli liaison committee [title as received] Gen Dov Siyon.

This morning the Israeli defense minister toured the Khan al-Khalili area in the center of Cairo.

AS-SADAT INSPECTS TUNNEL UNDER SUEZ CANAL 26 APR

NC261620 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 26 Apr 79 NC

[Text] President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat this afternoon inspected the final stage of the Martyr Ahmad Hamdi Tunnel. The president was accompanied by presidential assistant Eng Sayyid Mar'i, engineers dean Eng 'Uthman Ahmad 'Uthman, Suez Canal authority chief Eng Mashhur Ahmad Mashhur, Reconstruction and New Societies Minister Eng Hasaballah al-Kafrawi, and Suez Governor Ahmad Hilmi Badr.

The tunnel is the first Egyptian tunnel to link Sinai with the canal and the delta, thus ending Sinai's isolation.

The president heard an explanation of the phases accomplished so far. Work at the tunnel is scheduled to be completed in April 1980. It costs 100 million pounds.

After inspecting the tunnel, the president said that this work is considered a miracle exactly like the high dam miracle. He said: It suffices for the people to see with their own eyes this accomplishment, this gigantic work, which is a magnificent achievement of the most modern technology.

GOVERNMENT SEVERS RELATIONS WITH BAHRAIN, LEBANON

NC261433 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1420 GMT 26 Apr 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 26 April--The Arab Republic of Egypt has decided to sever diplomatic relations with the State of Bahrain and the Lebanese Republic as of 26 April in reply to these two states' withdrawal of their diplomatic missions in Cairo.

An official source at the Foreign Ministry announced this today, adding that other states have been asked to look after the interests of Bahrain and Lebanon in the Arab Republic of Egypt.

MUBARAK DENIES TROOPS IN OMAN; COMMENTS ON MIDEAST

NC270646 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 27 Apr 79 NC

[Text] Vice President Husni Mubarak has reaffirmed Egypt's commitment to a solution of the Palestinian problem and the need for Israel's withdrawal from Arab Jerusalem. He said that in all its talks Egypt has not neglected the main topic in the Middle East issue, which is that of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. This is because Egypt is convinced that the Middle East problem cannot be solved without a solution of the Palestinian problem.

In an interview with Muscat television broadcast last night, Vice President Mubarak said that had the issue concerned Sinai alone, the problem would have been solved in 1975, when the Israelis offered to completely withdraw from Sinai and sign an agreement with Egypt in this connection immediately.

Concerning the action taken by some Arab countries in severing their relations with Egypt, Vice President Mubarak said that this subject is more sensitive than necessary and is a saddening thing. Asked about reports of the presence of Egyptian forces in the sultanate of Oman, Vice President Mubarak affirmed that Egypt has not sent any Egyptian forces to Oman.

GHALI CONFIDENT ANTI-EGYPT ATTITUDES WILL CHANGE

LD261319 Paris LE MONDE in French 26 Apr 79 p 3 LD

[J.P. Peroncel-Hugoz dispatch: "Don't Speak to Us of Those People Again!"]

[Excerpt] Cairo--Although reacting to the Arab decisions blow by blow and taking conservative steps often based on legal arguments, as in the case of the Arab League for example, the authorities are trying in fact, without exception, to moderate public opinion in their country in the belief that the Arabs' emotional reactions will calm down again sooner or later. Dr Butrus Ghali told us: "Our reaction to the latest Arab events is all the more serene since most of them were expected. At the Arab meeting in Kuwait a few weeks ago, my Saudi counterpart Prince Sa'ud even warned me that Riyadh would soon break off relations with us. The isolated situation in which people are trying to confine us is at present more symbolic than real since nondiplomatic relations continue with the majority of Arab nations. The 1 million Egyptian technicians living in the Arab world are carrying on with their activities and we continue to offer the same facilities to Arab citizens staying in our country as in the past. Economic relations and even, with a few rare exceptions, air links, are operating as before."

Solidarity Still Exists

The Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs also told us: "We do not underestimate the Arab governments' decisions, but we believe that, beneath the froth of events, Arab solidarity still exists. We will continue to shoulder our Arab, Muslim, African and nonaligned responsibilities. We will be represented at the forthcoming conferences in Monrovia and Havana. Attitudes will change when we achieve results in the Palestinians' favor."

But when the new negotiations with Israel take place will the lack of Arab support for Cairo not encourage the Jewish state to make as few concessions as possible to the president? Because of this fear the Egyptians are on the lookout for the slightest gestures of support for their cause anywhere in the world, so that they can at least argue international support. Mr Francois-Poncet's declarations about the absence from the peace agreements of an "acceptable solution" for the Palestinians and the other Arabs drew grimaces from many Egyptian leaders.

APPLICATION TO FORM NEW PARTY FILED BY MUMTAZ NASSAR

NC262215 Cairo MENA in English 2204 GMT 26 Apr 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, April 26--(MENA)--Former Peoples Assembly member Muntaz Nassar today filed an application to form a new political party, with Sayyid Zaki, acting secretary general of the Central Committee.

The application for the party, given the name of the National Front, carries the signatures of 128 founder members of whom 64 are workers and farmers, and encloses the party's prospectus and statutes. The political parties subcommittee of the Central Committee, which is in charge of the study of applications to form new political parties, will meet by mid-week to consider Muntaz Nassar's application.

ARAB SCIENTIFIC ORGANIZATION RESOLUTIONS REJECTED

NC261955 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 26 Apr 79 NC

[Text] The Arab Republic of Egypt has announced that it does not recognize the illegal resolutions adopted by the Executive Council of the Arab Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at the illegal meeting it held in Bahrain last Tuesday because these resolutions were issued by an unauthorized body which was discussing matters inconsistent with the organization's constitution.

In a statement issued by the Foreign Ministry today, the Arab Republic of Egypt emphasized that it will take all the legal measures that will insure the protection of the organization's interests and the rights of those working in it. Egypt also affirmed that any attempt to implement the illegal and illegitimate resolutions issued by the Baghdad [as heard] meeting will be contrary to the Arab legitimacy specified in the Arab League Charter and against Arab cooperation and integration. In its statement, Egypt pointed out that it will continue to play a leading cultural and educational role based on the efforts of its experts, intelligentsia and tens of thousands of teachers who are sincerely and diligently working in the fraternal Arab states.

RHODESIAN ELECTIONS DESCRIBED AS ILLEGAL

NC262055 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2015 GMT 26 Apr 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 26 April--A responsible source at the Egyptian Foreign Ministry has described the alleged elections which recently took place in Zimbabwe under the supervision of the interim local council there as illegal. Consequently, he said, the government of Arab Egypt does not recognize the results of these elections.

The source said that Egypt reaffirms its position on the problem of Zimbabwe, which is based on full abidance by the OAU resolutions that support the National Front for the Liberation of Zimbabwe, the true representative of the Zimbabwe people, and reject the so-called internal settlement, considering it and everything that may result from it, including the recent elections, as null and void. The source noted that the government of the Arab Republic of Egypt demands that world society refuse to recognize these elections or any results thereof. It also demands that world society support the efforts to convene a plenary conference of all the parties concerned to find a just settlement to the problem. This settlement should insure the real independence of the country, do away with the white minority domination, and guarantee the holding of elections under the supervision of a neutral body acceptable to all parties concerned.

GOVERNMENT TO ATTEND NONALINED SUMMIT IN HAVANA

NC261742 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1555 GMT 26 Apr 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 26 April--The Arab Republic of Egypt will participate in the nonaligned states summit conference which will be held in Havana, Cuba, this coming summer.

It will also attend as an observer the meetings of the nonaligned states coordination office which is scheduled to convene in Colombo in June.

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali today met with Yugoslav Ambassador in Cairo Aleksandar Bozovic. They discussed matters related to the nonaligned states and the forthcoming nonaligned states conferences. Dr Ghali emphasized to the Yugoslav ambassador that Egypt always sees to it that the policy of nonalignment remains unchanged.

AGREEMENT ON MINE CLEARANCE PROJECT WITH FRG REPORTED

LD260825 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 23 Apr 79 p 8 LD

[Jabir al-Maj'awi report]

[Text] Al-'Alamayn--Agreement has been reached between the FRG Government and the authority in charge of the Al-Qattarah depression electric power project on the clearance of British, German, Italian and other land mines--some 3.6 million in total--left in the area since the desert battles during World War II. The mines obstruct the projected three canals that will extend from the Mediterranean to the Depression's edge. This is preparatory to implementing the project for electric power generation from the project's three cascades. The project is the biggest of its kind, producing five times the electricity generated by the high dam.

Work on the clearance of mines, which after 40 years are still alive and highly dangerous, will take place in Al-'Alamayn area, a 64 km long and 54 km wide strip lying between the sea and the depression. It involves the clearance of minefields whose marks have faded, whose maps and codes have been lost, and whose boundaries are not enclosed with barbed wires.

Agreement has been reached between the Bonn government and head of the authority to send explosives experts to work side by side with Egyptian experts who are retired officers from the engineering corp. The experts will begin to clear the area, on which hydro-electric, mineral, petroleum, agricultural and tourist projects will be established.

Maj Gen Fu'ad Nassar, governor of Matruh and member of the administrative council of the authority in charge of the Al-Qattarah project, said that the project to clear mines from the Al-'Alamayn area will be financed by the Ministries of Irrigation and Land Reform, Petroleum, Electricity, Mining, Agriculture and Tourism because the area covers 1 million feddan and includes virgin lands that have been left unexploited because of the mines under the surface. These mines stand in the way of the biggest project for food production and the green revolution in the western desert, he said.

AKHBAR AL-YAWM DISCUSSES SAUDI-U.S. RELATIONS

LD250855 Cairo AKBHAR AL-YAWM in Arabic 21 Apr 79 p 7 LD

[Unattributed article: "Behind the News: Moscow Card That Saudi Arabia Waves Before Carter's Face"]

[Text] As the peace efforts in the Middle East are following their charted course, political observers recently pointed out that Saudi-U.S. relations are progressing toward improvement or, at least, toward mutual understanding.

PRESS: CAIRO WILL REMAIN WITH ARABS DESPITE ESTRANGEMENT

NC250730 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0610 GMT 25 Apr 79 NC

[From the press review]

[Excerpts] In its editorial AL-JUMHURIYAH says that Israel will be making a big mistake if it bases its calculations on an evaluation of the current Arab position. Israel might think that the Arab states' severance of relations with Egypt will make Egypt rush toward it. The Arabs will be making a bigger mistake if they imagine that Egypt will dispense with the Arab world or separate itself from the Arabs and side with Israel. What is taking place in the Arab world now is a violent reaction by all parties to the shock of peace.

After the severance of relations, Israel might think that Egypt will surrender or abandon its Arab duties because the Arabs had adopted such a violent position. However, Egypt--by its history, religion, language, heritage, civilization, unity of its past and future with the Arabs and the unity of interests--will not differ with or antagonize the Arabs regardless of the circumstances. Egypt will remain forever Arab, believing in this status despite differences that have taken place, and will be taking place, in the Arab arena--differences that might reach the stage of temporary estrangement.

LONDON ARABIC PAPER REPORTS OFFICERS ARRESTED FOR PLOTTING

LD241251 London AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 23-29 Apr 79 p 13 LD

[Text] According to a diplomatic report, the Egyptian authorities have arrested 25 senior officers who were meeting in an apartment near Qasr an-Nil Bridge in order to discuss the Egyptian-Israeli treaty. The officers have been accused of preparing a military coup to overthrow As-Sadat's regime. The report said that those arrested include a civilian whose name has not been disclosed.

The report adds that five officers with the rank of major general have been dismissed from the army because they are suspected of not supporting the treaty.

These developments have accompanied the campaign of arrests which the Egyptian authorities have waged against the Nationalist Progressive Unionist Grouping [NPUG] party members as part of the plan to suppress popular movements opposed to the separate peace treaty and the separation of Egypt from the Arab nation.

This is happening simultaneously with As-Sadat's implementation of radical changes in the state institutions with the aim of mobilizing the forces supporting his new policy. These changes began with the dissolution of the People's Assembly preparatory to bringing in an assembly more loyal to him, despite the fact that 300 out of the 360 dissolved assembly members belong to As-Sadat's party.

Observers say that this step has been taken following the emergence of an opposition bloc in the assembly consisting of members who do not belong to As-Sadat's party and because of the fear that in time this bloc would become an influential power that would threaten As-Sadat's influence and oppose his plans.

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EGYPT

AL-AKHBAR CRITICIZES SYRIAN NEWSPAPERS, OFFICIALS

NC270827 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 27 Apr 79 NC

[From the press review]

[Excerpts] Under the headline "A Tragicomedy," the newspaper AL-AKHBAR comments on the aftermath of the exchange of the ratification documents of the peace treaty. It says: The Syrian Ba'th newspapers in Damascus yesterday came out with a new theme alleging that the Israeli enemy will launch a large-scale attack on the Arab fronts following the exchange of the ratification documents of the peace treaty with Egypt. AL-AKHBAR asks about the meaning of this talk. It explains that it is groundless and has no connection whatsoever with the peace treaty. However, it is an illusion containing an admission on the part of the Syrian Ba'th newspapers, or from those who are dictating to the Syrian Ba'th newspapers what to write, of how these people truly value themselves. Namely, they believe that they will be no match for Israel if the latter deals with them separately without Egypt. It is in fact a recognition of a fait accompli and a true situation which the Syrian Ba'th newspapers have unconsciously and inadvertently admitted.

AL-AKHBAR goes on to say: However, the Syrian Ba'th newspapers have not completed the picture of this imaginary Israeli attack and have not told us what Syria and the so-called confrontation states will do should this imaginary attack take place. They have not said anything about their claims about the rebuilding of the eastern front, the military unity between Syria and Iraq, the opening of the borders between them to enable the glorious Iraqi forces to move to the eastern front to confront and challenge and mobilize the advanced weapons which Gromyko promised them during his visit to Damascus. AL-AKHBAR adds: The Syrian Ba'th newspapers have said nothing about the charters and covenants reached between As-Asad and Al-Bakr, which are merely slogans and lies directed at the world and the Arab nation. This is because they have done nothing of this sort and they do not have the ability to do it. This is the truth about their work for the Arab cause. Their only effort has been to raise slogans, engage in outbiddings and claim leadership. Moreover, they are a liability to Egypt, which is the power guaranteeing their existence. This is the fact which the Syrian Ba'th newspapers have unintentionally admitted.

ILO OFFICIAL ARRIVES IN CAIRO FOR 5-DAY VISIT

NC201910 Cairo MENA in English 1835 GMT 20 Apr 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, April 20--Francis Blanchard, director general of the International Labour Organization, arrived here today for a five-day visit at the invitation of Manpower Minister Sa'd Muhammad Ahmad. The ILO Cairo office said that Blanchard will discuss ILO aid to Egypt in the country's transfer from war economy to peace economy. He will also discuss ways to promote the human resources and vocational training. Blanchard will meet with the ministers and senior officials concerned.

AGRICULTURAL DELEGATION LEAVES FOR CHINA, JAPAN

NC270922 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0900 GMT 27 Apr 79 NC

[Excerpt] Cairo, 27 April--An Egyptian agricultural delegation headed by Agriculture Minister Dr Mahmud Dawud left Cairo this morning for a 12-day visit to China and Japan at the invitation of the Chinese and Japanese Governments.

SADDAM HUSAYN RECEIVES ENVOYS IN THIRD WORLD STATES

JN261235 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1108 GMT 26 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 26 April--Saddam Husayn, Revolution Command Council [RCC] deputy chairman, met today with the heads of Iraqi diplomatic missions accredited to the states of the Third World. He reviewed with them current Arab and international events and Iraq's policies regarding the countries of the Third World. The 3-hour meeting was attended by 'Adnan Khayrallah, RCC member and minister of defense; Sa'dun (Shakir), member of the Regional Command of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and RCC member; Hamid 'Alwan, minister of state for foreign affairs; and the two Foreign Ministry under secretaries.

FOREIGN MINISTER RETURNS FROM BEIRUT, MAKES STATEMENT

JN262145 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2045 GMT 26 Apr 79 JN

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 26 April--Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi returned here this evening after attending the meetings of the Arab unity research center executive committee which were held in Beirut yesterday.

In a statement on arrival, Dr Hammadi said that he had discussed the situation in Lebanon and the new situation in southern Lebanon with Lebanese president Ilyas Sarkis, Lebanese Prime Minister Salim al-Huss and Lebanese Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butre. Dr Hammadi added that he had sensed a desire by the Lebanese officials for Iraq to play a larger role in helping solve Lebanon's problems. Dr Hammadi also said that Lebanese officials expressed the wish that the Arab countries would hold an Arab summit conference on Lebanon. Dr Hammadi pointed out that he had exchanged views with Lebanese officials on how to achieve this collective Arab move and that he had explained Iraq's readiness in principle to participate in any such efforts within its capabilities. Dr Hammadi concluded his statement by saying that his talks had been fruitful and that he had sensed appreciation for Iraq's position, which is characterized by impartiality, loyalty and sacrifices toward Lebanese problems.

Before leaving Beirut, Dr Hammadi held a press conference in which he spoke about his mission to Lebanon and the results of his contacts with Lebanese officials. Dr Hammadi pointed out that he had visited Beirut to attend the meetings of the Arab unity research center executive committee which held its first meeting there at its headquarters. Dr Hammadi added that he had held talks with Lebanese officials on the situation in Lebanon in general and the situation in southern Lebanon in particular because Iraq wishes to help Lebanon out of pan-Arab motives.

Dr Hammadi noted that he had sensed an official and popular trend reflected in the Lebanese press for holding an Arab summit conference to deal with the situation in Lebanon. Dr Hammadi stressed that the Lebanese issue is a pan-Arab responsibility and is connected with the Arab-Zionist struggle and that it is not an internal affair of an Arab country. Dr Hammadi said that he had expressed to Lebanese officials Iraq's concern over the Sa'd Haddad phenomenon because it concerns the security of Arab land.

Dr Hammadi warned against involving the United Nations and making it a party to the treaty between the Egyptian regime and the Zionist entity. The United Nations, he said, would commit a great error if it allowed itself to be led by Washington's efforts to this effect.

On relations between Iraq and the Soviet Union and how they could be affected by the Iraqi Government's relations with the Iraqi Communist Party, Dr Hammadi said: Our relations with the Soviet Union are not tied to relations with the Iraqi Communist Party. They are relations between states and are based on common interests and mutual respect. Hammadi added: If the Iraqi Communist Party withdraws from the Iraqi National Front, it will have committed a big mistake. The revolution and the country will continue. The revolution, as you know, took place without the Communist Party.

COOPERATION DISCUSSED WITH HUNGARIAN HEALTH MINISTER

JN261326 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1125 GMT 26 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 26 April--Health Minister Riyadh Ibrahim Husayn today discussed with Hungarian Health Minister Emil Schultheisz and the delegation accompanying him ways of developing bilateral relations in the field of health. Health Minister Ibrahim stressed that Iraq is anxious to develop its relations with Hungary, especially in the field of health, in view of the relations of firm friendship between the two countries. The Hungarian health minister emphasized his country's desire to develop bilateral relations and to expand cooperation in various spheres, including health.

The two sides discussed the possibility of exchanging visits by professors and students, benefiting from each other's expertise in medicine and nursing, and carrying out joint scientific activities. They agreed to discuss the possibility of holding an exhibition of Hungarian medical equipment and convening a scientific meeting in Baghdad in which Hungarian scientists would participate. They also agreed to set up a joint specialized committee to follow up the implementation of the health agreements concluded by the Health Ministries of the two countries and to supervise the latest developments in health relations between them.

ATH-THAWRAH WARNS AGAINST PLAN INVOLVING UN

JN261026 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0850 GMT 27 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 27 April--The newspaper ATH-THAWRAH warns against involving the United Nations in the implementation of the conspiracy of the tripartite As-Sadat-U.S.-Zionist alliance in the Arab region. The paper today reveals a plan that is being currently prepared to involve the United Nations so as to legitimize the implementation of the articles of As-Sadat's agreement with the Zionist enemy.

Under the headline "New American Moves and the Required Arab Response," ATH-THAWRAH says that the American administration will resort to various ways and means to extend the mandate of the UN Emergency Force, including the use of pressure, blackmail and implicit and explicit threats. The paper says that U.S. President Carter informed As-Sadat in the past that if the United Nations did not agree to extend the UNEF's mandate, then he would dispatch an international force to replace the UN force whose mission is due to end soon. The paper says that this force will be made up of U.S. units or of contingents from countries allied to the United States.

ATH-THAWRAH asserts that the American administration has exerted pressure on a number of Arab countries and hinted at threats to use the big stick to force these states to withdraw their rejection of the treasonous treaty. The U.S. administration has done this after all of its attempts to tempt people through emissaries and secret and open messages have failed.

The paper adds: Within this framework one can understand the significance of the threats made by the U.S. President's adviser on national security affairs, who had no qualms about declaring that "the United States will not hesitate to use force to protect its vital interests in the world." The paper warns that U.S. attempts to circumvent the Baghdad summit resolutions will not cease. ATH-THAWRAH says that the United States will not desist from its attempts to split the united Arab ranks and to obstruct the progress of joint Arab action. It stresses that these attempts will increase in proportion to the escalation in the Arab stand that rejects As-Sadat's treason.

Concluding its article, the organ of the Arab Socialist Ba'ith Party stresses that the Arab will to confront the conspiratorial schemes and to punish the traitor As-Sadat and isolate his regime is a determined and common will. The paper says that this will actually represents the unity of the Arab nation and the unity of its interests and objectives. It is a will that is stronger than that of the enemies of the Arab nation, the paper adds. ATH-THAWRAH calls on the Arab nation to employ all its resources and capabilities for struggle in the service of the free Arab will which is always aspiring toward freedom, justice and progress.

FINANCE MINISTER RETURNS FROM PARIS, MAKES STATEMENT

JN241901 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1820 GMT 24 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 24 April--Finance Minister of Fawzi 'Abdallah returned here this evening after participating in the meetings of the General Assembly and Board of Directors of the Federation of the Arab and French Banks which concluded in Paris yesterday. Dr 'Abdallah said that the conferees discussed ways to increase the financing of foreign trade of the Arab countries, particularly development projects in these countries. He said the conferees also approved the final accounts of the assembly.

INFORMATION MINISTER LEAVES FOR TOGO NONALINED CONFERENCE

JN220934 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0825 GMT 22 Apr 79 JN

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 22 April--Information Minister Sa'd Qasim Hammudi left Baghdad this morning for home to head the Iraqi delegation to the third session of the nonalined countries' government coordination council for information affairs, which will begin there on the day after tomorrow, Tuesday.

Hammudi told INA that the council will hold 3-day discussions on a report by the council chairman on information development among the nonalined countries since the 1976 Colombo meeting and on the council's working program for the coming stage.

KING HUSAYN REPORTEDLY SENDS MESSAGE TO 'ARAFAT

JN271033 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0950 GMT 27 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Beirut 27 April--Today's issue of AL-LIWA' reports that King Husayn recently sent a message to PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. The Lebanese paper says that in his message, which was conveyed to 'Arafat by 'Abd ar-Razzaq al-Yahya, head of the PLO office in Jordan, King Husayn stressed his desire to strengthen Jordanian-Palestinian relations to confront the present situation in the Arab area.

INFORMATION MINISTER 'AWDAH DISCUSSES MIDEAST CRISIS

JN261230 Doha QNA in Arabic 1033 GMT 26 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Kuwait, 26 April--'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, Jordanian minister of information, has stated that his country is willing to negotiate on the Middle East crisis in accordance with three basic conditions. These are summed up in the need for a complete Israeli military and civilian withdrawal from the occupied territories, including Arab Jerusalem; the right of the Palestinian people to determine their future; and the participation of the Palestinian people's representatives in any future talks.

In a statement to the Kuwaiti paper AL-QABAS published today, the Jordanian minister said that the United States based its stand on the idea that Jordan would accept the Camp David formula and that the Arabs would follow suit later. However, the Jordanian stand toward the Egyptian-Israeli treaty shocked the sides participating in the Camp David talks. He added that the current campaign of psychological warfare is an attempt to countershock Jordan. He stressed that his country's stand on the Arab level is solid. He said that Jordan's domestic front is strong and can wreck all plots. Abu 'Awdah did not exclude the possibility that his country might be exposed to pressure from those who have been harmed by this stand. He stressed that the only alternative is an Arab stand which will come to existence during the next few months.

The Jordanian minister called for returning to the international forum with the participation of the Soviet Union and Europe because the United States cannot be the only mediator in a world where interests intermingle. Asked whether there are fears of a military outbreak in any part of the area, Abu 'Awdah said that this is not possible now although Israel is entertaining the idea of carrying it out. However, he did not esclude the possibility that Israel might close the bridges with Jordan. He asserted that such a measure would be aimed at placing pressure on the Palestinian people.

DELEGATION TO MONETARY FUND MEETING RETURNS

JN212006 Amman JNA in Arabic 1540 GMT 21 Apr 79 JN

[Excerpt] Amman, 21 April--The Jordanian delegation to the meetings of the council of governors of the Arab Monetary Fund returned to Amman today after participating in the third meeting of the council, which concluded in Abu Dhabi last Thursday. Dr Sa'id An-Nabulsi, central bank governor and head of the delegation as well as chairman of the fund's council of governors for the second session, said that it was decided at the meeting to suspend Egypt's membership in the Arab Monetary Fund and to refuse to grant any loans, guarantees or any form of economic aid to the Egyptian Government for its institutions.

CABINET MAKES MILITARY APPOINTMENTS

NC271230 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 27 Apr 79 NC

[Text] At 1230 today the Cabinet held an extraordinary session under President Ilyas Sarkis. Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss and the ministers attended the meeting. The greater part of the session was devoted to a discussion of developments in southern Lebanon, evaluation of the meeting of the UN Security Council and the statement issued by the council yesterday, and drawing up the broad lines of action in the coming stage in light of these results. The session was also devoted to reviewing the results of the local, Arab and international consultations which have taken place. The coming days are expected to witness a series of contacts and meetings between Lebanese officials and the UNIFIL command for implementation of the previously prepared timetable.

After the Cabinet session, which ended at 1320, Cabinet Secretary General Dr 'Umar Musayki made the following statement:

The Cabinet discussed the general situation in the country, particularly in the south, in light of the current developments and the UN resolution.

The Cabinet then discussed the question of the appointment of the heads of the principal institutions in the army and the members of the military council. After deliberations the Cabinet decided to approve the appointment of the following officers to the following positions:

Staff Col Nabil Quraytim, secretary general of the supreme defense council;

Lt Col Yusuf Wahbi, inspector general;

Staff Col Zayn Makki, director general of administration;

Staff Col Amin Nasr Ad-Din, member of the military council;

Col Haykal Ma'Karun, member of the military council;

Staff Col George Azli, head of the military bureau of the defense minister.

BUTRUS BLAMES U.S. FOR DELAY IN SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING

NC261625 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1515 GMT 16 Apr 79 NC

[Text] At a press conference today, Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus said that Lebanon has no option but to invite the UN Security Council to convene to place it before its responsibilities and to ask it to be harmonious with itself and implement its resolutions.

Minister Butrus indirectly blamed Washington for the delay in convening the Security Council, saying: Topics connected with hotbeds in the Middle East prompt more than one state to refrain from adopting stands in advance on issues which might be referred to them. Butrus called this politics and political maneuvering.

Regarding the fact that the Lebanese and Syrian armies have not resisted the recent Israeli operations, Butrus said: The Syrian Army came here to achieve certain objectives. The authorities in Syria have earlier stated that the Lebanese officials themselves decide what must be done and that they must choose the time, place and circumstances.

SPEAKER AL-AS'AD ON POSSIBLE UNIFIL WITHDRAWAL

NC261541 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 26 Apr 79 NC

[Text] The national parliamentary grouping and the southern deputies met this morning at Mansur Palace. Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies Kamil al-As'ad chaired the meeting. The discussion dealt with the latest developments in the south. After the meeting, Speaker al-As'ad, in response to a question, said: The deputies who are meeting within the framework of the national parliamentary grouping and the southern deputies are able to assess the situation in the south and to make relevant proposals. They are able to do these things in view of their natural position. These deputies hold the view that if the Security Council remains unable to carry out the tasks assigned to it, if the only means at the council's disposal continue to be just negotiating with the parties concerned, and if this process of negotiating continues to be consistently crushed against the rock of Israeli rejection based on expansionist ambitions, then the deputies who have attended the meeting view this position as going beyond the resolutions passed by the Security Council. These resolutions stipulate the means and ways guaranteeing the carrying out of UNIFIL's tasks. If support for Lebanon's independence and the liberation of its territory continues to be merely theoretical and if Lebanon continues to be occupied in practical terms, then patriotic responsibility makes it imperative to reject the perpetuation of this state of occupation under the legitimate umbrella of the United Nations represented by the presence of the UNIFIL. In other words, the withdrawal of these forces would be preferable if it is proved that they are unable to carry out their tasks. Proposals within the Arab and international frameworks will be submitted tomorrow to the independent parliamentary groupings.

PRIME MINISTER AL-HUSS MEETS PLO OFFICIAL

NC252028 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 25 Apr 79 NC

[Text] Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss followed the developments of the Israeli attacks on southern Lebanon this afternoon through several contacts he made with the military commands. Within this framework, the prime minister met with the PLO permanent delegate to the United Nations, Basil 'Aql. The discussions at the meeting dealt with the situation in southern Lebanon and ways of ending the Israeli attacks.

IRAQI FOREIGN MINISTER MEETS WITH BUTRUS, MAKES STATEMENT

NC261059 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 26 Apr 79 NC

[Text] Iraqi Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi began official talks with Lebanese officials this morning. At 0930, Hammadi and the Iraqi ambassador to Lebanon called on Foreign and Expatriate Affairs Minister Fu'ad Butrus.

After the meeting, Dr Sa'dun Hammadi made a statement on the Lebanese situation in which he expressed support for an Arab summit conference to discuss what is happening in southern Lebanon. This situation, he said, deserves consideration at a high level because it is a serious matter. However, he added, the call for a summit conference should come as a result of a political decision by all Arab states. Asked what initiatives he was bringing to Lebanon, Dr Hammadi said: I do not bring any particular initiative. My aim is to exchange views with Lebanese leaders in detail about the situation. This exchange is tantamount to the beginning of a move to do something.

On Iraq's views regarding the future of the Arab Deterrent Forces, in Lebanon, he said: This is a complicated matter. We did not discuss it in today's meeting. Our discussions dealt with resolving the Lebanese problem, especially the question of the south, which we discussed in detail.

On questions regarding several issues related to certain contacts with the Palestinians and to putting some kind of pressure on them to stop their operations from Lebanon, he answered in the negative. He also denied that he was trying to bring the views of the Lebanese and Syrian authorities closer together.

Answering a question on the communists who are in Lebanon and are working against the Iraqi regime--especially those in the camps--and whether he had asked the government to take a certain stand on this issue, the Iraqi minister said: No.

President Sarkis Receives Hammadi

JN261352 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1330 GMT 26 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Beirut, 25 April--President Ilyas Sarkis received at noon today Iraqi Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi and Iraqi ambassador to Lebanon 'Abd al-Husayn Musallam.

Dr Hammadi stated that the meeting was very fruitful. "I have become acquainted with Lebanon's position from its highest official and I will convey this position to Iraqi officials."

In reply to a question by the press, Hammadi stated that President Sarkis had expressed the desire that Arab officials work for joint action on Lebanon.

Premier al-Huss Meets Hammadi

JN261718 Baghdad INA in English 1700 GMT 26 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Beirut, (INA)--Dr Sa'dun Hammadi, foreign minister, and Dr Salim al-Huss, Lebanese prime minister, today had discussions on the situation in Lebanon, particularly the southern situation.

Dr Hammadi told reporters he discussed with the Lebanese premier what the Arab states and Iraq could possibly do to assist Lebanon in solving its problems.

He said that the Lebanese head of state informed him that Lebanon was currently considering what formula could be adopted in which the Arab countries would contribute in solving the problem.

He said the Arab summit is one of the formulae of Arab action in this respect and that the Arab states could do much to help Lebanon within the framework of national responsibility.

The meeting was also attended by 'Abd al-Husayn Musallam Hasan, Iraqi ambassador in Lebanon.

AL-JUMAYYIL CRITICIZES SYRIA IN NOTE TO WALDHEIM

NC270725 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 0615 GMT 27 Apr 79 NC

[Text] Lebanese Forces Commander Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil has drawn the attention of UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim and the chairman of the UN Security Council to Syrian ambitions in Lebanon. In a note given to the United Nations, he said that these ambitions constitute a threat to the security, sovereignty and independence of the Lebanese state, as well as a flagrant violation of the UN principles.

Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil recalled the Security Council resolution of 6 October 1978 requesting the parties to the conflict in Lebanon to cease fire and stop acts of violence. He affirmed that while the Lebanese forces adhered to this resolution, the Syrian forces continued to violate it and frequently exposed the situation to full-scale explosion, preventing national reconciliation.

SHAM'UN SAYS SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING UNNECESSARY

NC261615 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1515 GMT 26 Apr 79 NC

[Text] Commenting on the convocation of the UN Security Council, Former President Camille Sham'un today said: Why should the UN Security Council convene? If it is convening to discuss the question of Maj Sa'd Haddad, then this is an internal question and the Security Council has no right to interfere. If the council convenes to discuss the problem with Israel, then this problem is connected with the armed Palestinian presence. When this problem is eliminated, the cases of the continuous incidents in the south will be eliminated. I do not believe that the Security Council will convene because the UN secretary general is the one who is encouraging the armed Palestinian presence in southern Lebanon despite the fact that this presence is the reason for continuous bloody incidents. Waldheim's encouragement does not constitute a solution to the question of the Palestinians but instead complicates it.

Asked what he expects from the Arab states meeting, if such a meeting takes place, Sham'un said: If the Arab states want to put an end to the odd situation in the south, then the only result we expect from their meeting is that they will influence the Palestinian organizations not to constitute a danger to the internal or external security of Lebanon. They should also influence these organizations not to use the Lebanese territory as a starting point for carrying out reprisals against Israel. These organizations must stop firing rockets from Lebanese territory in order to prevent reprisals against innocent Palestinians and Lebanese.

PARIS LE MONDE CITES SHAM'UN, HAWATIMAH ON LEBANON

LD261211 Paris Le Monde in French 25 Apr 79 pp 1, 6 LD

[Eric Rouleau dispatch: "End of the Lull"]

[Excerpt] Beirut--"I have no grudge against Israel," President [of National Liberal Party] Sham'un told us a few hours after Major Haddad's initiative. "My country is not occupied by Jewish troops but by the Palestinian fedayeen and the Syrian Army. Damascus is trying to impose a security pact on us before withdrawing its expeditionary corps. I say no to such a shameful deal. I will not negotiate an end to the occupation. I will not bargain with Lebanon's sovereignty and independence. The Syrians must leave first. Then we will establish strictly goodneighborly relations and nothing more. If they reject this procedure we will resist them as the Europeans once resisted the Nazis."

The former president of the republic does not believe that a national reconciliation is possible before the Syrians' departure. "Our Muslim compatriots," he explained, "are not free to negotiate. They live under a terror exercised by the Syrians." As for the Palestinians, in Mr Sham'un's view they must lay down their arms and stop harassing Israel from Lebanese territory. "It is laughable to imagine that some 20,000 fedayeen can bring the powerful State of Israel to its knees. I, who have always defended the Palestinian cause, advise them to negotiate with Jerusalem, as President as-Sadat has courageously done, and to stop providing cannon fodder for their Arab pseudo-friends. I predict that within 6 months most of the Arab regimes will have rallied to the Israeli-Egyptian peace. I also advise the Israelis to recognize the Palestinians' rights in the West Bank and Gaza.

"There is no question of our laying down our arms," Nayif Hawatimah, leader of the DPFLP, retorted. "The Camp David accords," he told us, "have forced us into a corner. We have no alternative but armed struggle. Since Lebanon is our last sanctuary we will fight with our backs to the sea...."

Damascus Denounces Sham'un's "Treachery"

"Let us be realistic: Objectively the Lebanese problem cannot be resolved before the Near East conflict is settled," George Awi, secretary general of the Lebanese Communist Party, one of the main parties in the National Movement, told us for his part. "In practice neither the United States nor most of the Arab regimes have anything to gain from restoring civilian peace in Lebanon, because the success of the Camp David agreements depends on eliminating the Palestinian resistance and defeating all the forces which oppose As-Sadat's capitulation."

VOP REPORTS SHELLING OF SOUTHERN LEBANESE TOWNS

JN261156 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1115 GMT 26 Apr 79 JN

[Text] At a time when the UN sources are talking about a cease-fire agreement reached following a Zionist demand to this effect, at midnight the Zionist enemy carried out a new piracy operation in the Lebanese territorial waters off Sidon. The Zionist gunboats tried to kidnap a cargo ship at anchor in the port. The Zionist gunboats also shelled some suburbs in Sidon. The fire was returned by the joint forces. The clashes continued for about 1 hour, after which the enemy gunboats took to the high seas.

At dawn today, the Zionist and isolationist forces shelled with intensive artillery fire the townships of Hasbaya and Kawkaba, wounding a number of the UN forces personnel.

In another development, the enemy radio concentrated its newscasts on what it described as appeals by the settlers, urging the Zionist military command to continue the Zionist war against southern Lebanon. This exposes the Zionists' serious intentions to escalate military actions within the coming days against civilian Palestinian and Lebanese camps and villages.

VOL ON SECURITY SITUATION IN BEIRUT, SOUTH

NC270701 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 0615 GMT 27 Apr 79 NC

[Excerpts] Sporadic firing continued throughout the night in the areas of Mazada, Ar-Rayha and Galerie Sim'an in the southern suburb as well as in the center of Beirut. Positions west of Al-Burj kept up their fire on the areas of the Empire Cinema, As-Sayfi and Ad-Dabbas. Strong explosions were heard in the southwestern suburb.

It has been reported from Ba'Labakk that at 0100 this morning armed men broke into the house of Henry (?al-Khazin), abducted his 19 year-old son Joseph and shot him dead, in Al-Basatin. They then threw his body into the river.

In the south, a state of caution continues to prevail despite the Palestinian-Israeli cease-fire agreement arranged through the UN forces at the request of the Palestinians.

According to correspondents' dispatches from the south, about 80 percent of the population has left their homes. Some villages and, especially, the town of Tyre appeared empty. In Tyre alone 18 people were killed and a number of other people were wounded. Observers believe that the number of casualties resulting from recent Israeli shelling of the south exceeds 60 dead and 100 wounded. An-Nabatiyah, which came under artillery fire on Wednesday night, suffered more losses and destruction. The shelling has forced what is left of its residents to leave. Its roads are empty with no sign of activity. Shops are closed.

PRESIDENT AL-ASAD INTERVIEWED ON MIDEAST SITUATION

JN262034 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1715 GMT 26 Apr 79 JN

["Text" of interview granted by Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to Basim al-Mu'allim, Monte Carlo Radio Correspondent, and Louis Faris, correspondent of the Paris based Arabic magazine AL-MUSTAQBAL, in Damascus--date not specified]

[Text] Question: Mr President, the question concerns the Egyptian-Israeli treaty. As-Sadat seems to be going ahead and you are exerting all your efforts to foil the treaty. There are so many alternatives before you. Which do you prefer?

Answer: In fact As-Sadat's deviation from the Arab ranks has not changed the alternatives open to the Arab nation. His opting out of the Arab-Israeli conflict and his staying under the Israeli umbrella will not change the nature of the alternatives open to the Arab nation. We must endeavor to bridge the gaps left by Egypt's temporary absence from the Arab-Israeli struggle and from the Arab trench in this struggle.

Our unchanged aim is the liberation of our lands occupied in 1967 and the restoration of the full national rights of the Arab people of Palestine. To achieve this aim we must integrate our means and methods. We need all these means and methods. Within this understanding we will work to make the United Nations assume its essential, effective and important role and will continue, at the same time, our preparations on the battlefield and our struggle in many forms and on all levels. In word and deed we will derive our action and strength first from our just cause and second from our material capabilities in support of this cause.

Question: You have mentioned the United Nations and the Arab level. Starting with the United Nations, the international cards are played well in the United Nations. Could you tell us something about these cards and how the Arab front deals with such cards, especially with the European states.

Answer: The Arabs have many different resources. They have manpower and economic, military, diplomatic, cultural and other assets. We must strengthen our solidarity and master our use of our resources in order to benefit from our Arab card. This is very basic and important. When we are able to make good use of our Arab card, which I hope we are going to do, we will be able to effectively use all the international cards.

Question: On the Soviet Union: What is the role of the Soviet Union since it has been isolated by the treaty, and how do you evaluate your relations with the Soviet Union at this stage?

Answer: I can see that the question contradicts the real situation. The treaty has not isolated the Soviet Union. It has isolated those who signed it. Who supports the treaty and who supports its signatories? Has the treaty achieved peace? Has it achieved an Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Syrian territories? Has it achieved an Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Palestinian territories? Has the treaty achieved the return of the Palestinian and Syrian refugees to their homes and land? Has the treaty succeeded or will it succeed in achieving peace in the region?

An objective look will give a negative answer, namely, that the treaty has not achieved peace nor has it achieved the elements of peace.

Why should the world support the treaty? Does the world support a deal in which the just Arab cause, and particularly the cause of the Arab people of Palestine, is sold? Does the world support and encourage a man who has deviated from the ranks of his nation? I repeat that the treaty has isolated only its sides.

Concerning our relations with the Soviet Union, we have good and friendly relations with the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union stands by us sincerely. It supports our just cause, and we are satisfied with this stand.

Question: Following As-Sadat's initiative, Syria raised the slogan of the strategic balance between it and Israel. To what extent has the Soviet Union responded to you in this strategic field?

Answer: After Camp David and the treaty, the leadership of the country met and we took the decision which we saw as proper. This is the well-known and declared decision of our country taken after analyzing the Jerusalem visit and the Camp David agreements. We adopted this position in light of our nation's pan-Arab and national interests. We are making reasonable progress on the road to developing our military capabilities and we are satisfied with the measures we are adopting in this field. We have discussions with the Soviet Union within the framework of our friendly relations. Concerning the issue of military capabilities it is only a matter of time, perhaps a short time.

Question: The United States fears that Syria will sign a joint defense pact with the USSR if U.S. pressures increase in the area. To what extent is this true?

Answer: To have a joint defense pact or any other pact cannot be governed positively or negatively by the fears of the United States and other states in the world. Such a pact is related to our views regarding our national and pan-Arab interests. So far we have not discussed anything like this with our friends in the Soviet Union.

Question: On your relations with the United States. Mr President, you have stated that the U.S. role hampers peace and harms U.S. interests in this area. The latest U.S. decision is to intensify its military presence in the area. Do you have any slight hope of correcting or confronting this policy?

Answer: The basic problem is that U.S. policy, particularly in this area, is dictated by Israeli considerations and is completely subjected to Israel's interests. Experience has proved this so far. In light of this experience, I do not believe that it will be easy to correct U.S. policy in the area unless this is done through the emergence of new factors in the area, like something big on the road to Arab unity, for example, or great development of Arab capabilities as a result of coordination, interaction or a well-prepared plan. A thing like this might lead to a change in U.S. policy.

Question: Washington's calculations were based on the fact that it can rely on a strategic triangle of Egypt, Israel and Iran. Iran moved out of this triangle and adopted a strategic course hostile to these calculations. In your opinion, what is the best method for coordination with the new Iranian regime to confront the U.S.-Egyptian-Israel axis? When do you expect to pay a visit to Iran to achieve this objective?

Answer: The Iranian revolution is an important factor and a shining light in this area and at this stage. We consider the triumph of the Iranian revolution--with all the slogans it raises--as a triumph for the Arabs. Contacts continue between us and the Iranian revolution. Undoubtedly necessary coordination will take place at the appropriate time and place. I will be happy to visit Iran. This visit will take place at a suitable time, after the leaders of the revolution complete certain tasks with which they are preoccupied these days consisting of measures and steps due to the new situation in Iran. I repeat that I will be very happy to visit Iran and meet with Ayatollah Khomeyni and the leaders of the Iranian revolution.

Question: In your reply to questions on U.S. policy and the relations of the Arab homeland with other countries, you have stressed Arab unanimity and unity of Arab ranks. There is unanimity that the Syrian-Iraqi Joint National Action Charter has been a basic factor contributing to the establishment of an effective Arab front hostile to the Camp David settlement and leading to the first step toward Arab unanimity. How far will you proceed with this charter? And what about the participation of Jordan and the Palestinian resistance in these efforts?

Answer: Ostensibly, the charter is nothing more than a statement which may help unity between any two neighboring countries, but in fact it is the beginning of the road to achieving the Arab nation's objective and the objective of every Arab citizen--Arab unity. It is not new to say that Arab unity is the top Arab objective, and if the Arabs succeed in achieving this unity then all other obstacles facing us will decrease in importance and we shall become more capable and more determined to confront and solve all obstacles standing in our way.

The Syrian-Iraqi Joint National Action Charter was established to achieve these objectives and the more we achieve in that direction the more we shall be capable of confronting occupation, aggression and all the schemes against the basic interests of our Arab nation. The rapprochement between Syria and Iraq strengthens Arab steadfastness and Arab capabilities. When we say that the charter strengthens Arab steadfast forces we mean Arab steadfastness, that is, that of every citizen in Syria, Iraq, Jordan, Palestine and everywhere. Proceeding from this we say that the rapprochement between the two countries is in the interest of the citizens of the two countries. It is in the interest of the citizen in Palestine. It is in the interest of the PLO, Jordan and in the interest of the ruling regime in Jordan. It is in the interest of all Arab citizens, particularly those wishing to struggle against all forms of colonialism, namely against the Israeli occupation.

Question: Do I understand from Your Excellency that Jordan and the Palestinian resistance are called upon to participate in this charter?

Answer: As I have said, the charter is ostensibly a statement between two neighboring countries. In fact, the charter is one thing and what we are proceeding to is another, namely, we are going beyond what the charter stated. We are proceeding toward a constitutional formula to achieve unity between the two countries. Naturally this unity or federation will be based on specific criteria. This unionist formula will be open to all Arabs who want to join it.

Question: If you please, let us move to Lebanon. The topical issue in Lebanon is the entry by the Lebanese Army into southern Lebanon and Sa'd Haddad's problem. How must this problem be tackled?

Answer: It goes without saying that the answer to this question is specifically up to the Lebanese Government and has nothing to do with us in Syria. However, as a fraternal neighboring country and because we are concerned about what happens in Lebanon, I can say that it is preferable that the Lebanese Army arrive in southern Lebanon by force. The army is capable of this. In this case the army will face one of two possibilities: Either Sa'd Haddad will confront the army, and in this case the latter will definitely overcome Sa'd Haddad and impose the state's authority over the border strip, or the army will clash with Israel. In this case the naked truth will emerge. It will be clear that the question is not Sa'd Haddad, the establishment of a state in southern Lebanon or separation of part of Lebanon, but that Israel occupied new Arab territory. This is how I see the question. The decision is up to the Lebanese Government and not to us. However, I maintain that the Lebanese Army must go to southern Lebanon and it is definitely capable of doing this, and Sa'd Haddad is nothing in this question.

Question: Your Excellency, when the Arab Deterrent Forces entered Lebanon you said you had entered to safeguard Lebanon's unity and the Palestinian resistance. Does the situation in Lebanon and the Palestinian resistance enable you to lift the burden of this presence?

Answer: Whatever the problems and difficulties we as deterrent forces, the Lebanese citizen or the Lebanese Government in general have faced or are facing, the civil war stopped after the entry of the Syrian forces into Lebanon. This is a fact no one can dispute. These forces have continued to stop civil war up to this moment, whether between Lebanese and Lebanese or Palestinian and Lebanese. The Palestinian resistance also has remained strong in Lebanon and Lebanon is still one country. The Lebanese president and prime minister can now talk with every party and can exercise their authority with as many establishments as are available to them. This status quo was not available before the entry of the deterrent forces. The entry of the deterrent forces stopped the civil war, maintained Lebanon's unity and enabled the Lebanese Government to exercise its authority. The question remains now with the Lebanese establishments as a whole to face up to their responsibilities. We desire this, but the question is not up to us but depends on our brothers in Lebanon.

Question: In view of this, are you going to meet with President Ilyas Sarkis shortly?

Answer: Possibilities for meetings are always open. Personally, I welcome President Sarkis any time. There are issues of common concern which officials of the two countries discuss. Any time they propose to us the necessity to meet and discuss such issues or to make decisions with them I have no objection.

Question: Your Excellency, you are friends with the Soviet Union as well as Saudi Arabia. Have you made or would you like to make mediation efforts concerning diplomatic relations between the two parties?

Answer: In fact, we did not take any initiative and we have not been asked to mediate between our brothers in Saudi Arabia and our friends in the Soviet Union.

Question: The constitutional 4-year term of the present leadership of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party will end this year. Will a new leadership be elected? What is the extent of the relationship of elections with the unification of the Ba'th Party in Syria and Iraq?

Answer: Discussions between us and our brothers in Iraq are continuing. There is no conflict between the continuation of these discussions and our work according to the Ba'th Party's internal system. All that is required according to the Ba'th Party's internal system for this year will be completed. The issue is linked to measures and arrangements in line with party norms and the internal system. Accordingly, the Ba'th Party conference will be convened this year and a new Regional Command will be elected.

Question: Your Excellency, according to the resolutions of the Rabat and Baghdad summit conferences, the Arab countries pledged to give financial support to Syria in its capacity as the main confrontation state. Have all the Arab countries fulfilled their total commitments?

Answer: Certain Arab countries fulfilled the commitments adopted at the Baghdad summit conference and certain others were a bit late, but they are proceeding to fulfill their commitments. I do not want to speak about each individual country.

Question: In repeated statements As-Sadat still insists that he is working to solve the Palestinian question in the interest of the Palestinian people, whereas the statements of Israeli officials affirm that there will be no withdrawal from the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, that establishment of settlements will not stop and that self-rule applies to the inhabitants and not territory. How can you explain this contradiction?

Answer: As-Sadat is trying to play a big misleading role unprecedented in the history of this area. Such ploys, however, are perfectly clear to the Arab citizens everywhere. As-Sadat's maneuvers are completely clear to the Arabs. As-Sadat himself knows that he is not telling the truth, for he is in a position to be the first to know this. But he wants us to believe what he says. We will believe what he says when he believes what he says. Anyway whether he said this or something else, we have gone beyond what he has said and is saying. We now give no notice to his statements because he has isolated himself completely from this nation. He has sold himself to the devil and placed himself under complete Israeli tutelage. He has absolutely no Arab sentiments.

We cannot rely on him in our struggle for our cause either now or in the future. However, we make a distinction between As-Sadat and Egypt. I affirm that As-Sadat cannot keep Egypt out of the Arab nation. There are examples in Egypt's history of other rulers who tried to isolate Egypt from the Arab nation and to align with its enemies but failed, and Egypt returned to its natural position, struggled and fought with its nation and triumphed with the Arab nation. The future will be as bright as the past.

'ARAFAT ARRIVES IN DAMASCUS TO ATTEND MEETING

JN270723 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0530 GMT 27 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar arrived in Damascus last night to attend the tripartite Syrian-Palestinian-Lebanese meeting to be held among President Hafiz al-Asad, brother Abu 'Ammar, Progressive Socialist Party Leader Walid Junblatt, and the members of the commands of the Lebanese Nationalist Movement and the pan-Arab and progressive forces front. The meeting was scheduled to be held last night in Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad's office.

Our correspondent has learned that the discussion will deal with the political situation in Lebanon in the wake of recent developments, particularly in the south, and ways to confront this situation on various levels. The discussion will also deal with tripartite coordination on the security and organizational levels.

PRIME MINISTER RECEIVES CSSR FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER

JN262207 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 26 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Prime Minister Muhammad 'Ali al-Halabi today received Andrej Barcak, Czechoslovak foreign trade minister, who is currently visiting Syria. The meeting was attended by Dr George Huraniyah, minister of state for planning affairs, and the Czechoslovak ambassador in Damascus.

During the meeting, the two sides discussed the aims of the minister's visit and his talks with Syrian officials. Relations of cooperation between the two friendly countries and ways to promote this cooperation were also discussed. Cooperation in the field of technical exchanges between the two countries and new cultural and scientific cooperation programs were emphasized.

Earlier this evening, Dr Jamil Shayya, deputy prime minister and foreign minister received Minister Barcak. They reviewed with great interest current development of the economic and trade relations between the two countries. They also discussed ways to utilize the loans granted by Czechoslovakia to Syria for several projects.

The two sides expressed their satisfaction with the economic and trade relations between the two countries.

PAPER COMMENTS ON ISRAELI ATTACKS IN SOUTHERN LEBANON

JN261321 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0845 GMT 26 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Damascus, 26 April--In today's issue, the newspaper TISHRIN comments on the escalation of Zionist aggressions by land, sea and air against the Arab people--Lebanese and Palestinians--in southern Lebanon on the eve of the exchange by the representatives of the As-Sadat regime and the Zionist terrorist Menahem Begin of the ratification instruments of the conspiratorial agreement called the "peace" treaty.

The paper says that the recent Zionist attacks and acts of aggression against southern and northern Lebanon, which are being repeated daily, conclusively prove that this constant Zionist aggression is in harmony with the agreement's objectives as assessed by our Arab people.

TISHRIN asserts that this Zionist aggression is but the first step along the road of implementing the undeclared articles of the agreement. The consequences of these undeclared articles can be deduced from the threats made by White House officials and by leaders of the Zionist entity and the As-Sadat regime in the statements they made on the signing of the treaty.

The paper adds: The United States was not content with warning those who have doubts about this agreement or with threatening those who oppose it, but has officially declared that it is the guarantor of its implementation. Indeed, it is preparing armies and fleets to intervene whenever the remotest threat to this agreement begins to appear anywhere in the Middle East.

TISHRIN emphasizes that all these threats and sword brandishings do not and will not have any effect on the morale of the Arabs or on their preparations to confront this agreement anywhere in the Middle East.

Indeed, this will encourage them to strengthen their unity. This is because the response to this conspiracy is a patriotic and national duty and the responsibility of every Arab.

In conclusion TISHRIN says that Arab unanimity, clearly demonstrated with the adoption of the resolutions of the Baghdad conference of Arab foreign and economy ministers, is capable of foiling this treasonous treaty, its instruments and its results.

TISHRIN DENIES INSTIGATION OF OPPOSITION INSIDE EGYPT

JN261053 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0850 GMT 26 Apr 79 JN

[Excerpts] Damascus, 26 April--In a commentary today, the newspaper TISHRIN stresses that the attempt to intimidate the opposition to As-Sadat by fabricating the charge of receiving orders from foreign quarters, and the attempt to mislead Arab and foreign public opinion by [words indistinct] "foreign organs" [words indistinct] organizing resistance operations in Egypt, have been exposed and mislead no one. [passage indistinct]

The paper asks: Can anyone in Egypt or the world believe that Syria is capable of instigating at one and the same time the leaders of the 23 July Revolution, the scholars and students of Al-Azhar, the students and workers of Asyut, the students of Egyptian universities, scholars, men of letters, intellectuals, and the main Egyptian parties with all their political, social and intellectual propensities?

TISHRIN writes: If the stands of the majority of the Egyptian people and the stands of the patriotic and progressive parties, groups, organizations and figures in Egypt happen to be in agreement with Syria's stands, then this is a source of pride for Syria and its leadership. This is because Syria's stands express the will and conscience of the Arab nation.

Concluding its commentary, TISHRIN says that the Egyptian people know their enemies and know their affiliations. All the psychological warfare of the media and all the fabrications will not succeed in diverting the Egyptian people from their national struggle to topple the traitorous regime.

ALGERIA

NKOMO SPEAKS TO PRESS UPON DEPARTURE

LD262138 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 26 Apr 79 LD

[Text] President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and secretary general of the FLN, received Mr Joshua Nkomo, president of the Zimbabwe African People's Union and cochairman of the Patriotic Front, just prior to his departure from Algiers. Soleiman Osman, central committee member in charge of the party's international relations commission, was present at the meeting.

At Dar el-Beyda Airport, Mr Joshua Nkomo answered a question from the national press on Algeria's contribution to the struggle of the liberation movement, and particularly that of the Zimbabwe people. Mr Nkomo stated:

[Nkomo--begin recording in English, fading into French translation] The role of Algeria, as one of the first countries of the world to actively support national struggles, is very clear. Algeria furthermore distinguishes itself both on the scene of nonalignment, and because of the place it holds among third world states.

The Patriotic Front of Zimbabwe has specific relations with Algeria, and this visit has taken place within the framework of the regular meetings with Algerian leaders in order to inform them on the situation in Zimbabwe. The people of Zimbabwe are living through a period similar to that of Algeria under colonial domination. Finally, I would like to say that the elections in Zimbabwe--in Rhodesia--are illegal. They are the illustration of a rotten system. [end recording]

LIBYA

PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH MAURITANIA DETAILED

LD261620 Tripoli JANA in English 1423 GMT 26 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli, April 26, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--Our correspondent learnt that the Libyan Arab-Mauritanian protocol signed at the end of the recent visit of Ahmed Ould Abdallah, the Mauritanian foreign minister, to the Jamahiriyah, dealt with the different aspects of cooperation between the two countries and the setting up of several joint projects.

The text of the protocol included Mauritania's undertaking to hand the part of the Sahara it occupied back to the liberation front of Saghij Hamra and Rio de Oro.

Both sides discussed the Sahara issue in detail. The Mauritanian side reaffirmed its country's open stand regarding Mauritania's recognition of the right of the Saharan people to self-determination and its readiness to hold negotiations with the West Saharan liberation front in Tripoli.

The Mauritanian side expressed its country's intentions and concern to establish good and stable relations with Morocco and Algeria, stressing that Mauritania is not in alliance with Morocco against Algeria and vice versa.

Both sides had agreed to hold negotiations between Mauritania and the liberation front of Saghij Hamra and Rio de Oro in Tripoli on 26 May 1979 in order to sign a peace treaty that ensures a permanent peace between them and lay down the methods to put it into force.

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NORTH AFRICA

Both sides expressed their intentions to continue consultations and strengthen relations between them for the mutual interests of both peoples as well as discussing national and African issues.

The protocol affirmed the stand of both countries against all imperialist alliances in the area and condemned such alliances. They also stressed their commitment to implement the resolutions of the conference of Arab foreign and economic ministers held recently in Baghdad.

Both sides have agreed to hold a meeting for the joint committee in Nouakchott at the end of next June.

ROMANIAN GOVERNMENT DELEGATION DEPARTS 25 APR

LD261726 Tripoli JANA in English 0825 GMT 26 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli, 26 April, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--The Romanian deputy prime minister and his accompanying delegation left Tripoli yesterday ending a visit to the Jamahiriyah during which he took part in the work of the Libyan Arab-Romanian joint committee. The Romanian delegation was seen off at Tripoli International Airport by the secretary of heavy industry, 'Umar al-Muntasir, director of the Cooperation Department at the Foreign Secretariat and the Romanian ambassador to the Jamahiriyah. The Romanian deputy prime minister expressed to our representative in Tripoli his delight and satisfaction with his visit to the Jamahiriyah. He said: "I held several friendly meetings with certain secretaries and we have agreed to cooperate in housing, health, industry, oil and agriculture as well as exchange of expertise and the training of Libyan nationals.

BULGARIAN METALLURGY, MINERAL RESOURCES MINISTER LEAVES

LD261728 Tripoli JANA in English 0828 GMT 26 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli, 26 April, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--The Bulgarian minister of mineral resources, Mr Stamen Stamenov, ended his visit to the Jamahiriyah which lasted a few days yesterday.

He was seen off at Tripoli International Airport by the secretary of heavy industries, Mr 'Umar al-Muntasir, the Bulgarian ambassador to the Jamahiriyah and a representative from the Protocol Department at the Foreign Secretariat.

In a statement to our correspondent, Mr Stamenov expressed his pleasure at visiting the Jamahiriyah and said that during his visit the two countries had decided to promote bilateral cooperation in industry as well as to set up a joint electricity corporation and to expand agricultural cooperation and dam construction.

MOROCCO

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH EGYPT SEVERED

LD262032 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 26 Apr 79 LD

[Text] The Ministry of State in Charge of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation has issued the following statement:

In implementation of the resolutions of the conference of the Arab ministers of foreign affairs and economy, which was held in Baghdad from the 27 to 31 March 1979, his majesty's government has decided to sever its diplomatic relations with the Arab Republic of Egypt.

SUDAN

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON CEAUSESCU VISIT 25 APRIL

LD252318 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 25 Apr 79 LD/EA

[Apparent text of joint communique on the visit of the Romanian delegation led by President Nicolae Ceausescu in Sudan, issued in Khartoum on 25 April]

[Text] In response to an invitation by President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri, president of the Sudanese Socialist Union [SSU] and of the Democratic Republic of Sudan, his excellency Mr Nicolae Ceausescu, secretary general of the Romanian Communist Party and president of the Socialist Republic of Romania, accompanied by Mrs Elena Ceausescu, paid an official visit to the Democratic Republic of Sudan from 23 to 25 April 1979.

His Excellency President Nicolae Ceausescu and his wife and the accompanying delegation toured economic, social and cultural institutions, where they were accorded a warm reception expressive of the Sudanese people's feelings of friendship and appreciation for the friendly Romanian people.

In a cordial atmosphere permeated with mutual respect, the two presidents held official talks, during which they dealt with matters affecting the two countries in the fields of construction and economic and social development. They studied the course of bilateral relations and their development. They exchanged views on international problems of common concern.

The talks were attended on the Sudanese side by Ar-Rashid at-Tahir Bakr, vice president of the Republic and foreign minister; Dr Muhammad Hashim 'Awad, assistant SSU secretary general and minister of cooperation, commerce and supply; Nasr ad-Din Mustafa, minister of national planning; Prof 'Abdallah Ahmad 'Abdallah, minister of agriculture, nutrition and natural resources; 'Uthman Hashim 'Abd as-Salam, minister of finance and national economy; Abu Bakr 'Uthman Muhammad Salih, minister of state for cabinet affairs; Dr Sharif al-Tuhami, minister of energy and mining; Dr Fatumah 'Abd al-Mahmud, secretary of the Women's Committee; Muhammad 'Uthman al-Awad, Sudanese ambassador to Romania; Salah Ahmad Muhammad Salih, director general for political affairs at the Foreign Ministry; Taj as-Sirr Muhammad Abbas, director of the East European Department at the Foreign Ministry; Mustafa 'Ali Arbab, director of the Department of Political Affairs and Foreign Relations at the presidency of the republic.

Attending on the Romanian side were: Virgil Cazacu, member of the political executive committee and secretary of the Romanian Communist Party Central Committee; Virgil Trofin, member of the Political Executive Committee and deputy prime minister; Stefan Andrei, candidate member of the Political Executive Committee and foreign minister; Constantin Nita, minister of state at the Ministry of Foreign Trade and International Economic Cooperation; (Marin Ambaci), senior adviser at the Romanian Communist Party Central Committee; Mr (Constantin Litia), adviser to the secretary general of the Communist Party and president of the republic; (Aror Nicolae), first deputy minister of foreign trade and international economic cooperation; Florian Stoica, Romanian ambassador in Khartoum; (Bob Wiscu), deputy minister of mines, petroleum and geology; Mrs (Ana Moriscin), chairman of the National Council for Women; (Constantin Posina), secretary of the Central Committee of the Union of Communist Youth and chairman of the national council for organization of [word indistinct].

The two presidents stressed the importance of their meetings to the consolidation of friendship and cooperation between the two countries and peoples. They pointed out that the joint communique of the Democratic Republic of the Sudan and the Socialist Republic of Romania signed in Bucharest on 2 April 1973 had been a prominent landmark, model and guide. They also expressed their complete satisfaction at the cultural development arising out of the course of the relations between Sudan and Romania and their fruitful cooperation in all fields. The two presidents viewed the understanding brought about and the achievements made during the meetings of the joint Romanian-Sudanese committee in Bucharest in December 1978, as a new and important factor towards effecting the growth and expansion of the base of political cooperation between the two organizations in the two countries and economic cooperation between their two governments. In appreciation of the splendid results yielded by this political cooperation, the president of the SSU and the secretary general of the Romanian Communist Party have decided to expand and deepen the foundations of this cooperation by drawing up a program, the aims of which will be defined by the two sides.

Expressing their complete satisfaction at what has been achieved by the economic cooperation between the two countries, the two presidents have resolved to make further efforts to expand and deepen cooperation between the two countries in the fields of industry, agriculture, communications and other fields.

They also concurred that the competent organs in the two countries should redouble efforts to implement the program and objectives to be agreed upon. In this respect, they affirmed that the accomplishment of the building of the National People's Assembly Hall in Omdurman, which was constructed by engineers and workers from both countries, will remain a permanent symbol and a living embodiment of the friendship between the two peoples and countries.

Out of a desire to promote the relations between the two peoples and countries to an advanced stage, presidents Ja'far Muhammad Numayri and Nicolae Ceausescu signed a treaty of friendship and cooperation between the Democratic Republic of Sudan and the Socialist Republic of Romania during this visit. The following documents were also signed: program for development of economic and industrial cooperation and trade exchange between the Democratic Republic of Sudan and the Socialist Republic of Romania; agreement to avoid double taxation.

In their review of international problems the two presidents renewed their support for the will of peoples and their right to develop with complete freedom, to control their national resources, to determine their destiny, to choose their own way of life without external interference, and to cooperate among themselves on a basis of equality and in an atmosphere of security and peace. They also expressed deep interest in international politics, namely the complications and increasing contradictions among states and [words indistinct] by states. They viewed with concern the continuing disputes in many parts of the world resulting from the practice of imperialism and colonialism, both old and new, as well as the policy of force and subjugation and the division of the world into spheres of influence and hegemony.

The need to eliminate backwardness dominated the attention of the two presidents as one of the fundamental problems of international life in view of its influence on international peace and security. They affirmed their determination to bring about the establishment of a new world economic order based on equal cooperation among all states leading to the progress of the developing states in making achievements in modern and (?technical) science.

They noted the need to step up contacts and cooperation between developing states so as to narrow the gaps between them and to guarantee the success of the resolutions of the fifth UN conference on trade and development, which will be held in Manila, and the fifth session of the UN General Assembly in 1980. [as heard]

In order to take appropriate measures to safeguard peace and to heighten the progress and prosperity of all peoples, the two presidents emphasized the need to establish relations between states on the basis of complete equality of rights and respect for sovereignty and national independence and noninterference in the internal affairs of states, with no resort to force or threat to use it.

They also noted the need to settle all disputes among states by peaceful means without sparing efforts in providing development opportunities for all states in an atmosphere of freedom in accordance with their legitimate wishes and aspirations and on the basis of justice and equality.

The two presidents discussed at length the situation in Africa. They declared the need for the complete liquidation of colonialist domination and the practices of the outdated neocolonialism. They renewed their political, diplomatic and moral support for the peoples of Zimbabwe and Namibia in their just struggle for independence.

They warned of neocolonialism's attempts to impose solutions that run counter to the aspirations of these peoples. They also affirmed the legitimate rights of the peoples of Zimbabwe and Namibia to use all means at their disposal to achieve independence and freedom.

The two presidents condemned the policies and practices of Apartheid being pursued by the racist regimes in southern Africa. They regard these policies as a serious violation of all norms of human rights and a threat to peace and security in Africa and the world as a whole. They also condemned the armed acts of aggression launched by the racist (?regimes) against independent and sovereign African states. They demand an immediate halt to these acts of aggression. They also expressed their concern at the atmosphere of tension and conflict existing in Africa. They stressed the need to speed up the settlement of all disputes by political discussions between the African states concerned.

The two presidents call on all the sovereign independent African states to strive to consolidate unity and solidarity in their joint struggle to strengthen national independence, concentrating on economic and social development. In this connection, they expressed their appreciation at the important role played by the OAU in finding peaceful solutions to disputed questions on the continent and its efforts to create a climate of peace, good-neighborliness and cooperation among African states.

It is the view of the president of the Democratic Republic of Sudan and the president of the Socialist Republic of Romania that the achievement of security and the fulfillment and development of cooperation in Europe demand military disengagement and disarmament, as well as an expansion of technological, scientific and cultural cooperation among the states and peoples of the continent.

The two presidents also hold that the achievement of security and cooperation in Europe will have a positive effect on strengthening peace and security in the world as a whole.

The two presidents stressed the need for earnest action to achieve a comprehensive and just solution to the Middle East problem.

They also emphasized that a just solution to the problem and a permanent peace in the region can only be achieved on the basis of Israel's withdrawal from the Arab territories occupied in 1967 and a settlement of the Palestinian issue by recognizing the rights of the Palestinian people to determine their own destiny and establish an independent state.

The two presidents stressed the need for solidarity among all Arab states to achieve a comprehensive, just and permanent solution to the Middle East problem, to attain security and stability in the region and guarantee economic and social progress for the Arab peoples, thus helping entrench the pillars of peace and stability in the world.

On the basis of the outcome of the recent extraordinary session of the UN General Assembly, namely the creation of a more democratic framework for disarmament negotiations, and at a time when specific measures in this respect are being taken, the two presidents stressed the need to stop the arms race as a basic step in the sphere of disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament and reduction of arms budgets. They also called for the allocation of the resultant surplus of funds for man's welfare by (?using them) for his economic and social progress in all states, chiefly the developing ones.

The two presidents stressed that a permanent settlement for complicated issues in the world today demands active participation in international life by all states on an equal footing. They also called for the strengthening of the role played by the United Nations in preserving international peace and security, in the development of cooperation among states and in spreading democracy in international relations.

The two presidents also stressed the major role played by the nonaligned states in international current affairs and in preserving the national independence of all states.

Expressing satisfaction with the cooperation between the two countries in the international sphere, the two presidents agreed on the need for them to continue their efforts to work together on matters of joint interest at the international level.

The president of the Democratic Republic of Sudan and the president of the Socialist Republic of Romania expressed their satisfaction at the results of this cordial visit. They stressed that the meetings and discussions held during the visit and the understanding that prevailed had contributed in strengthening the good relations of friendship and cooperation existing between the two countries.

The president of the Socialist Republic of Romania, Nicolae Ceausescu, expressed his deep gratitude to President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri and the friendly people of the Sudan for the magnificent friendly welcome accorded to himself, his wife and his delegation.

His Excellency President Nicolae Ceausescu extended an invitation to President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri, president of the Democratic Republic of Sudan, to pay an official visit to the Socialist Republic of Romania. His excellency accepted it with thanks. The date of the visit will be fixed later through (?diplomatic) channels.

EDUCATION MINISTER MEETS WITH HUNGARIAN DELEGATION

ID270634 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 25 Apr 79 ID/EA

[Text] Daf'allah al-Haj Yusuf, minister of education and chairman of the National Council for Higher Education, received in his office this morning the Hungarian delegation, led by the principle of the institute of cultural cooperation, which is currently visiting the country.

The radio reporter has learned that the development of cultural relations between Sudan and Hungary within the program of implementing the bilateral cultural agreement was discussed.

The minister thanked the Government of Hungary for the assistance it is providing to Sudan in the cultural and educational fields. His excellency expressed the readiness of the higher educational institutions in Sudan to admit Hungarian students, particularly in the fields of Arabic, African and Asian studies.

The leader of the Hungarian delegation invited the minister of education to visit Hungary.

Cultural Action Program Signed

JN261809 Khartoum SUNA in English 1745 GMT 26 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Khartoum, April 26 (SUNA)--A cultural action programme was signed here today between Sudan and Hungary for the years 1979-80 and 1981. Signing for Sudan was the acting under secretary of Foreign Ministry and for Hungary was the vice president of the Hungarian Institute for International Cultural Relations who is currently visiting Sudan.

TUNISIA

ALGERIAN FOREIGN MINISTER VISITS, MEETS BOURGUIBA

ID262012 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 26 Apr 79 ID

[Text] At midday President Habib Bourguiba received at the Republican Palace, Carthage, Mohammed Seddik Benyahia, Algerian foreign minister and envoy of President Chadli Bendjedid to his excellency the president. The meeting was attended by Prime Minister Hedi Nouria; Habib Bourguiba, Jr, private adviser of the president; Foreign Minister Mohamed Fitouri; Mohamed Sayah, minister delegate to the prime minister and party director; Amor Rezzani, Tunisia's ambassador to Algiers, and Ali el Kafi, Algeria's ambassador to Tunis.

Following this meeting his excellency the president invited the Algerian envoy to have lunch with him.

Mohamed Seddik Benyahia made a statement after the meeting at the beginning of which he noted how honored he was to be received by the great struggler President Habib Bourguiba and to be invited to have lunch with him. He noted in particular that he conveyed to his excellency a message from President Chadli Bendjedid.

He said: We greatly benefited from the meeting with President Habib Bourguiba and from his views about the international situation. He added that there was willingness by Presidents Bourguiba and Bendjedid to further strengthen relations between Tunisia and Algeria, to continue contacts and to exchange views on all issues. He then expressed his joy to find President Habib Bourguiba in good health. He pointed out that President Habib Bourguiba delegated him to convey his greetings to President Chadli Bendjedid and the Algerian people.

Replying to a question connected with the new prospects of the Arab Maghreb region, Mohamed Seddik Benyahia said: We must cooperate with our brothers in Tunisia and open broader scope for the development of relations between the two countries in all political, economic and cultural spheres.

We must broaden the scope to discuss the building of the great Arab Maghreb, because this lies in the historic course of the region, and all political means must be provided to reach this target. Finally, he expressed optimism in the future of the Arab Maghreb.

The great struggler had familiarized Mohamed Seddik Benyahia with a number of historic pictures and documents of the national movement.

Foreign Minister Mohamed Fitouri on his part this morning had talks with Algerian Foreign Minister Benyahia in the presence of At-Tayyib as-Sahbani, general secretary of the Foreign Ministry, and the ambassadors of both countries.

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH EGYPT SEVERED 27 APR

ID271230 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 27 Apr 79 ID

[Text] The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has issued the following statement:

The Tunisian Government has decided to break off diplomatic relations between the Republic of Tunisia and the Arab Republic of Egypt. This step falls within the framework of the resolutions adopted by the Arab League Council in Baghdad in March 1979.

WESTERN SAHARA

MAURITANIA REPORTEDLY AGREES TO RETURN TERRITORY

ID271324 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 27 Apr 79 ID

[Text] Mohamed Ould Salek, Saharan minister of information and member of the POLISARIO Political Bureau made a statement to APS today in the liberated Saharan territory. He noted the military, economic and political crisis that Hassan II's regime was going through. He said that it was the product of the expansionist war being waged by this regime against the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic [SDAR] and that it will definitely lead to a decisive change in Morocco exactly as had happened in Portugal and lately in Mauritania. This change will come about, he said, unless Hassan II comes to his senses and chooses the path of peace and returns to international legality by withdrawing his aggressive forces from Saharan territory. This is the essential condition without which no peace can be established between the SDAR and Morocco.

The Saharan minister of information, in his statement to APS, went on to stress that as long as the king of Morocco continued to reject peace and to pursue his determined expansionist policy against the Western Sahara, the Saharan Popular Liberation Army, with more force and greater violence, will continue to strike inside Morocco itself until total respect for our national sovereignty and the unity of the Saharan Republic is achieved.

Mohamed Ould Salek confirmed that the Saharan national authorities were officially notified by the Libyan national authorities about the signing in Tripoli on Monday, 23 April 1979, of a protocol agreement between Libya and Mauritania in which the Mauritanian Government pledged to return the part of the Western Sahara it occupies to the Saharan national authorities.

CARTER, BEGIN EXCHANGE LETTERS ON PEACE EFFORTS

TA261737 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 26 Apr 79 TA

[Text] The U.S. President has asked Prime Minister Begin to act to increase the feeling of trust between Israel and Egypt. This is included in a message Jimmy Carter sent to Mr Begin following the exchange of the ratified documents of the peace treaty.

The U.S. President recalled the decisions reached by Anwar as-Sadat and Menahem Begin on opening the borders early and on setting up an air corridor between Israel and Egypt. He warmly praised Begin's role in the achievement of the peace treaty.

Today, the prime minister replied to Carter's message and pointed out that the achievement is first and foremost the result of Mr Carter's efforts. He also told him he sent a letter to the Nobel Prize committee today suggesting that Carter be awarded the Nobel peace prize for 1979.

WEIZMAN MEETS WITH AS-SADAT IN ISMAILIA

TA261249 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 26 Apr 79 TA

[Text] Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman met in Ismailia this morning with President as-Sadat. The talk lasted about 1 hour and general issues were discussed. Before attending the meeting, 'Ezer Weizman noted that he is not bringing with him any message from the Government of Israel to the president of Egypt.

At the moment the defense minister is beginning the first visit by an Israeli statesman to the Egyptian naval base in Alexandria. The commander of the Egyptian Navy will this afternoon welcome Minister Weizman onboard one of the vessels.

The defense minister will this evening return to Cairo and meet with Prime Minister Mustafa Khalil. Our envoy says that all subjects that have been raised by Weizman in his talks with Egyptian leaders have already been agreed upon, and the visit is now taking on more of a social character.

WEIZMAN PHONED BY BEGIN OVER PLO REMARK

TA261212 Jerusalem POST in English 26 Apr 79 p 1 TA

[By Hirsh Goodman, POST military correspondent]

[Text] Cairo--Prime Minister Menahem Begin telephoned Defence Minister 'Ezer Weizman here yesterday evening to discuss the latter's statement on the subject of the Palestinian Arabs and the PLO.

On his departure for Egypt earlier in the day, Weizman had said, in answer to a reporter's question: "I only hope we will find a solution to the Palestinian problem. I would like to remind you that the peace treaty--part of it--is going into the negotiations to find a solution to the Palestinian problem. But I suggest that the PLO and other so-called enemies will follow in the footsteps of Egypt and stop shooting and start talking."

According to Weizman, Begin told him that he understood that Weizman had not intended to say that Israel should talk to the PLO. Weizman said that Begin was satisfied that this was not an issue.

Weizman himself, when asked later in the day to clarify his statement, said categorically that he had not intended to hint that Israel negotiate with the PLO. He had been asked the question in the context of the Palestinian Arab problem and the situation in Lebanon.

Weizman said that he had intended only to say that it was regrettable that none of those at war with Israel followed the path of peace, as had Egypt.

A spokesman for the minister said last night that Weizman had meant the Palestinians and not the PLO. He considers the latter, the spokesman said, to be a murderous terrorist organization.

In a short meeting held in his room here last night, Weizman told reporters that he was extremely satisfied with the way the visit was going. He was impressed with the warmth of the Egyptian people and the discussions were proceeding smoothly, Weizman said.

ISRAELI-EGYPTIAN COMMITTEE ON SINAI TO MEET 29 APR

TA261225 Jerusalem POST in English 26 Apr 79 p 2 TA

[Text] Cairo--The inhabitants of Al-'Arish will in all probability be given free access to work in Israel after the north Sinai town is returned to Egyptian control on May 26. This is one of the details discussed here by Defence Minister 'Ezer Weizman in talks last night.

It was learned yesterday that the joint Israel-Egyptian committee for overseeing the Sinai pullback will meet at 11 a.m. on Sunday, April 29, at Tasa in Sinai. The committee will be headed by Brig Gen Dov Si'on for Israel and by Egyptian Brig Gen Sa'd ad-Din (Abu Shnab), each of whom will serve as joint chairman and share the head of the table.

At the first meeting they will review the committee's mandate and define the tasks for several subcommittees. These will deal with: marking the border; water; electricity; transportation of installations; military government; police; health; education; and check points.

An informed source told the Jerusalem POST that Bedouin will be able to move freely from the Egyptian portions of Sinai to those under Israel control, while the committee will still have to decide on regulations for Israeli citizens passing from sector to sector.

The fate of Israeli factories in Al-'Arish is still unclear, but in general all the major points surrounding the handover to Egypt have been settled.

While Al-'Arish will be handed over on May 26, the countdown of nine months for the first stage of withdrawal to the Al-'Arish-Ra's Muhammad line through Sinai will begin today with the exchange of the instruments of ratification. As was noted by Weizman at a dinner in his honour given by Egyptian Defence Minister Hasan 'Ali at an Egyptian officers club, it begins now.

AMBASSADOR ON SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE ON LEBANESE ISSUE

TA262032 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 26 Apr 79 TA

[Text] Tonight, the UN Security Council called for the stationing of UN forces in all parts of southern Lebanon and not just in limited areas. The council also expressed its support for the Lebanese Government's efforts to impose its authority in all parts of the country. With this decision, the debate at the Security Council, held at Lebanon's request, came to its end.

The Lebanese representative demanded the debate last week in the wake of Secretary General Kurt Waldheim's report on the UN's poor results in achieving its goals in south Lebanon.

Following the publication of the Security Council decision, Israel's ambassador to the United Nations, Yehuda Blum, said that the PLO is in fact responsible for all Lebanon's problems and for its inability to control events within its boundaries. The PLO is establishing a country within a country in Lebanon. Syria is to a certain extent also responsible for the erosion in Lebanon's sovereignty, the Israeli ambassador said.

He went on to say that Israel's interest in events in Lebanon stemmed from a direct, vital security interest. There are some 2,000 armed terrorists in southern Lebanon today. A quarter of them are in an area not far from Israel's border. Previously the PLO tried to hide behind refugees and villagers. However, now, it attempts to hide behind the UN forces, as well.

RABIN INTERVIEWED ON TERRORISM, LEBANON, PEACE

TA251918 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1405 GMT 25 Apr 79 TA

[Interview with Alinement MK Yitzhaq Rabin by Nahum Barne'a and 'Uzi Benziman, moderated by Yitzhaq Golan in the framework of the weekly "Press Conference" program in the studio in Jerusalem--live]

[Excerpts] [Golan] Sir, at next Sunday's Cabinet session the prime minister is supposed to raise the issue of the death penalty for terrorists who commit cruel and inhuman acts. Do you share this concept?

[Rabin] As far as I know, the prime minister will propose the abolition of the decision adopted by the Cabinet headed by Levil Eshkol, may he rest in peace, in 1967. Israeli law enables a military court to pass a death sentence on a terrorist. The decision adopted at the time was an administrative one meant for the military advocates and prosecutors so that they would not demand death sentences. The intention probably is to cancel this administrative decision. My opinion was and still is that there is no need for the death penalty as a means for war against terrorism. I cannot prove this. However, I do not think this would deter terrorists from carrying out either criminal or cruel assassinations. In the last few years, we witnessed missions by terrorist squads which they themselves no doubt assumed they would not survive. Thus, I am very doubtful that the new proposal will cause even one terrorist to refrain from carrying out sabotage acts. Perhaps, this could provide some satisfaction on the feeling that justice is being done when a terrorist is executed. However, I still think that the policy adopted by past Israeli Governments, including the present government, not to strive for the execution of terrorists was the correct policy.

[Benziman] Mr Rabin, you can probably look at the problem of terrorist activity both from the viewpoint of a former chief of staff and a prime minister. How would you advise the government to cope with this problem?

[Rabin] Today, just as when I was chief of staff and when I was prime minister I do not think that the phenomenon of cruel and criminal terrorist acts carried out against Israeli citizens can be dealt with by military means. The main problem is: first, how to reduce the number of Israeli victims both in Israel and overseas; and second, how to create a situation in which those who organize, train and carry out these acts pay a heavy price for their wish to continue their terrorist operations against Israel and its citizens.

The policy to be adopted should be a combined one, a policy of continuous struggle, hitting the terrorists according to the possibilities, probabilities and other considerations of timing, political reality and also a continuous monitoring by the defense system against terrorists. Without the good combination and effective development of both these systems it is impossible to achieve the two purposes I have described in the struggle against terrorism.

[Barne'a] During your term as prime minister a certain policy toward Lebanon in general, the war in Lebanon and mainly southern Lebanon has developed. This week, Major Haddad announced a sort of independence for the district of south Lebanon. How do you foresee the development of relations with Lebanon in the wake of this declaration? Do you believe that the present status of the district will continue?

[Rabin] When we talk about Lebanon we should bear in mind that the main political problem lies in Beirut and its surroundings. We should bear in mind that the main concentration of Christians--about a million--live north, northeast and east of Beirut. From the international Lebanese-Israeli border to Beirut there are 80 kms which are populated mostly by Muslims. In the vicinity of the border with Israel there is an area which is mainly inhabited by Christians--some 30,000 to 40,000 of them--who found themselves completely isolated from the big Christian concentration in the north. Had it not been for Israel's security and other assistance after the eruption of the civil war in Lebanon, this Christian minority would have been annihilated. Therefore, I differentiate between Israel's duty to provide the Christian minority in the so-called enclaves--which, in fact, constitute a continuous strip from the sea to what used to be the southern part of Fatahland--with the possibility of supporting itself, living its own life and being able to defend itself and the support of Major Haddad's declaration. From what has been said on a certain occasion, I understand that Haddad did not consult Israel, and Israel does not oppose or favor this political declaration. Basically, the Lebanese problem can only be solved through a political settlement. I believe that Israel should continue its support for the Christians to enable them to stand on their own feet against all attempts to annihilate them or their political stand and struggle, first and foremost in the north and in the politically secondary south. However, we must hope that the Syrians will reduce their involvement or maybe recognize the fact that their 2-year military presence in Lebanon did not bring about a political solution, and change their approach by looking--together with the main Christian force led by the various Al-Jumayyil's and Sham'un's--for a political solution which will keep a united and independent Lebanon, free of Syrians, which will perhaps be divided--as in fact is the case at the moment--into Christian and Muslim areas. Nevertheless, it will keep its identity as a politically independent unit.

[Barne'a] In your opinion, what is the military limit of our commitment toward Lebanon? Could you foresee another operation such as the Litani operation to rescue the Christians of the enclaves or even a larger Israeli operation to safeguard the Christian existence in Lebanon?

[Rabin] I do not think that Israel should now define and certainly not publicize what it will or will not do. I think that the world, the Syrians, the PLO, the present government in Lebanon know very well that Israel will do a great deal should the fighting Christian minority--mainly in the north, certainly in the south--find itself unable to defend its own life.

[Golan] With your permission, we will switch now to the peace issue. Although there are some delays in 'Umm Khushayb, I hope the ratification agreements will definitely be exchanged today. Now, to peace itself: Do you think that Begin and As-Sadat showed courage and vision in the making of peace?

[Rabin] Undoubtedly, both As-Sadat and Begin showed great leadership and vision by crowning the negotiations with a peace treaty between Egypt and Israel. However, we should remember that the peace treaty is only the beginning of the road, an important, historically significant and first-rate beginning. However, ultimately, the results of the processes included in the two framework agreements signed at Camp David--whose first and probably most important stage is the peace treaty between Egypt and Israel--can be assessed accurately in 5 to 7 years.

[Barne'a] The current government agrees that territorial compromise in the West Bank is not feasible, not only in negotiations with Jordan but also when negotiating with the Egyptian Government. Have you also despaired of the possibility of territorial compromise on the eastern front?

[Golan] Maybe I will sharpen Nahum's question: Doesn't the Alignment's vote in the Knesset endorsing the Camp David accords, including the autonomy, indicate that the Alignment has abandoned the territorial compromise?

[Rabin] I will start with the past and then return to the present. Definitely, in all the direct and indirect political contacts during my term as prime minister it was made clear that no Arab country was ready for a comprehensive peace--according to the Israeli or to the Arab interpretations at the time--unless Israel withdrew to the borders before the Six Day War. This held true for the Egyptian, Jordanian and Syrian positions and certainly for the more radical Arab countries which were not directly involved in the conflict. What I mean is that those countries did not need to reach a peace treaty with us. To be truthful, my consideration and the government's consideration, to strive for peace with defensible borders--which, in principle, would not be congruent to the 4 June 1967 lines--was not to make peace the sole goal as long as no Arab country was ready to agree on a full peace or a peace with defensible borders not congruent with the 4 June 1967 lines, but also to be ready to advance toward peace through interim agreements.

[Barne'a] Pardon me, it is not clear. Could full peace have been achieved with the neighboring countries based on the return to the 1967 borders?

[Rabin] Not with Egypt, at the time. In my opinion, such a possibility existed with Jordan. Jordan was ready for full peace on the condition of an Israeli withdrawal to the 1967 lines while emphasizing that the withdrawal would have been to the last centimeter....

[Golan] Including Jerusalem.

[Rabin] In Jerusalem, I reiterate, the emphasis was on Jerusalem. Without going into details, with the conditions prevailing then I did not see this as a reasonable possibility.

[Barne'a] Let me interrupt you at this point; if such a possibility existed, wouldn't it have been right to bring this alternative to the people [words indistinct]?

[Rabin] In my opinion, the same possibility exists today.

[Barne'a] Perhaps it should be brought to the people.

[Rabin] I am convinced this possibility exists with Jordan today.

[Benziman] Don't you feel that you missed the opportunity?

[Rabin] No.

[Benziman] You feared the opposition?

[Rabin] I was not afraid of the opposition. I was convinced then as I am today that a peace which forces Israel to withdraw to the pre-Six-Day War green line, including the repartition of Jerusalem with all this implies--both political and civilian aspects--namely, Arab sovereignty over all of East Jerusalem, will include two possibilities: either the expulsion of all Jewish inhabitants of East Jerusalem--Ramat Eshkil, the French hill--or will bring about their proximity--from both the sovereignty and civilian aspects--to an Arab country. I regarded and I still regard such a solution as one we should fight against.

[Benziman] In your opinion, is the fate of the Golan Heights identical to that of the Sinai?

[Rabin] In my opinion it is not. I was very glad to hear, finally, an authorized announcement by the current government that even in a situation of peace we will not descend from the Golan Heights. My opinion was--and I expressed it when I was prime minister--that in a situation of peace we would not descend from the Golan Heights. I added that we would not necessarily stick to the present borders. I do not say this is the current government's position. I emphasize, this is what I said.

[Barne'a] Do you envision in the foreseeable future a Syrian Government reaching a peace treaty with Israel based on withdrawal from the Golan Heights?

[Rabin] You can ask the same question of the position adopted by the former government in its struggle for defensible borders with Egypt as well. I thought that had we fought and taken that road--provided the U.S. administration would have continued to act side-by-side with Israel as the former administration had done; they did not want to push Israel back to the 1967 lines which cannot be said about the present administration--while developing relations with Egypt--maybe not achieving full peace--it would have been possible to abolish the state of war up to the Ra's Muhammad-Al-'Arish line for a continuous period. Had Israel been ready to fight for it, it would have been highly probably to reach border modifications which would have met Israel's security problems. This could not have been reached by a policy of peace now. I believe it is possible to struggle for the Gaza Strip and the West Bank and the Golan Heights. Therefore, the Labor Party, according to my conception and its official decisions has not yet given up the idea of territorial compromise--not for operational implementation as of tomorrow. If we look at the Camp David deal, what exactly happened there? Peace was achieved with Egypt from an Egyptian point of view, including the return of every centimeter of their sovereign land before the Six Day War.

Regarding Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip two processes were determined: the establishment of autonomy according to the second framework agreement reached at Camp David and an arrangement for a transition period. Five years after the implementation of the autonomy a permanent solution must be reached. The Egyptian position, as well as the U.S. position, is that Israel should withdraw to the 4 June 1967 borders with minor modifications.

That is to say, we will face this situation during the process of making peace according to the schedule set up at Camp David. The achievement of Camp David was that Egypt agreed to make peace today and delay the decision about Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip to another 5 to 7 years.

[Benziman] When we listen to your explanations about your positions today, except for the issue of the autonomy, it is amazing that you are, in fact, expressing the government's positions. You share the same views on handling terrorists; you are opposed to withdrawal to the 1967 borders, as the government is; maybe you are more minimalist than the government but, in principle, you are opposed. The question is: What in your profile, or that of the party you are representing, is different from the government's policy?

[Rabin] So as not to deal with the past, that is to say, the Egyptian-Israeli level which I have talked about, and in order to deal with the political problem...

[Benziman] Palestinian. What is the Palestinian solution?

[Rabin] This problem is related to the general problem in the eastern front. I mean, the future of Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip, the solution of the Palestinian problem and peace with Jordan. I would say that, today, there are three conceptions of this problem: There is the government's conception, which states that the solution to the Palestinian problem is in granting autonomy to the population. The government has agreed to a 5-year transition period but it will raise the same point when discussions on the permanent solution start, that is, the solution of the Palestinian problem through autonomy to the inhabitants in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip. I do not think this will solve the Palestinian problem. I think it entails danger, even if the government does not want it. I cannot imagine that the initiators and supporters of the autonomy idea had in mind the establishment of a Palestinian state. Not at all; they are opposed to it. However, the fact that the solution of the Palestinian problem is based on autonomy is the first seed.

The Alinement's conception states that the solution of the Palestinian problem in all its aspects should be done in the framework of an arrangement with Jordan. That is to say, to reach an agreement with Jordan...

[Benziman] On territorial compromise?

[Rabin] On territorial compromise. Basically, you do not know what is going to happen after the transition period, when we reach the negotiations with Egypt, the United States, and others on the permanent solution in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip. The demand for total withdrawal will crop up again. Therefore, I would prefer--based on the general approach I was explaining before you interrupted me--I claim that to solve the Palestinian problem one political and sovereign system should be found which will include the majority of the Palestinians. There is no ideal solution to the Palestinian problem because there is a tragic confrontation between us. Where are the Palestinians today? Some 700,000 are in Judaea and Samaria; 400,000 in the Gaza Strip; 500,000 in Israel; 900,000, east of the Jordan River; 600,000 or maybe more are scattered mainly in two places: 350,000-400,000 in Lebanon, some 100,000-150,000 in Syria. In my opinion, a solution to the Palestinian problem which does not take into account the transfer of the majority of Palestinians from Lebanon and Syria and settling them in a place where they are included in a political framework--which is the solution to the Palestinian problem--will leave a fermenting and destructive focus to any political solution.

If the solution is that you reach an agreement with Jordan--and I have grounds to believe, based on past experience, that Jordan was ready to undertake this, especially if it enjoyed Egyptian and U.S. support--within the framework of an agreement with Israel on a solution to the Palestinian problem, then the majority of them would have settled where they can be settled, in the East Bank. A concentration of 1.3-1.5 million Palestinians would have been created there. I think that such a solution can still be attained. Therefore, I would accept the principle that, parallel to making peace with Egypt, there should be a transition period in Judaea and Samaria. However, instead of autonomy I would prefer Israeli-Jordanian partnership in ruling these territories, while Jordan keeps the right--just as Egypt keeps it today--to demand Israeli evacuation from all the territories, the evacuation of the settlements and the partitioning of Jerusalem. Egypt has not receded one bit from its positions on these issues. However, Egypt should be released from its responsibility to the Palestinian problem. Jordan should be involved and turned into a partner in the process of making peace and the negotiations due in 5 years should be conducted with Jordan. The condition for the introduction of Jordan should have been Israeli readiness in principle to effect the principle of withdrawal on Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip. This is the substantial difference between us and the Likud.

There is a third opinion: The readiness to establish a Palestinian state, mainly supported by Shelli and RAKAH, in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip. Both the Likud and the Alignment basically oppose such a concept.

JERUSALEM POST EXAMINES WORDING DISPUTE

TA201154 Jerusalem POST in English 26 Apr 79 pp 1; 2 TA

[By David Landau and David Richardson, Jerusalem POST reporters]

[Text] Umm Khushayb, Sinai--True to form to the last, the Israel-Egypt peace process was formally consummated yesterday in an exchange-of-ratifications ceremony which developed into a cliffhanging, nerve-racking negotiation over legal-textual points of contention.

The instruments of ratification were finally exchanged two-and-a-half hours after the scheduled time--and there is to be an additional letter sent by Egypt's Prime Minister Mustafa Khalil in a day or two expressing further "clarifications" and thereby allaying the concerns that each party felt over particular phrases or procedures.

This additional letter was drafted at the U.S. monitoring facility here by legal aides in the two delegations, and was approved over the telephone by Prime Minister Menahem Begin in Jerusalem and by senior Egyptian policymakers (apparently including President Anwar as-Sadat himself) in Ismailia. It was only then that Dr Eliyahu Ben-Elisar for Israel and Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Sa'd 'Afrah for Egypt were willing to hold the exchange-of-instruments ceremony.

Israel's concern focused on the phrasing of the Egyptian instrument of ratification in its reference to the As-Sadat-Begin joint letter on autonomy. The Egyptian instrument states that the joint letter gives full autonomy to the West Bank and Gaza.

Israel's legal aide, Dr Me'ir Rosenne, saw this and immediately balked. The joint letter, he protested, speaks of "full autonomy to the 'inhabitants' of the West Bank and Gaza."

For Israel, this word "inhabitants" is crucially important, because it implies the Israeli thesis that autonomy will be granted to the people living in Judeaea, Samaria and Gaza, but not to the areas as such.

Rosenne called the prime minister in Jerusalem--and received from him the most categorical instructions not to accept the Egyptian instrument as it stood, without the keyword "inhabitants."

Israeli sources said later that had this passage gone unnoticed at the ceremony, Israel would have insisted on returning the instrument of ratification later, under an international law provision allowing for such return on grounds of "technical mistake."

Interestingly, though, the passage did pass unnoticed by Israel at the ceremony--not in the text of the ratification instrument, but in 'Afrah's speech. He spoke of "the self-governing authority with full autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza Strip..." but, as Israeli sources pointed out later, a speech is not a legally binding document but a political statement.

The Egyptian side, too, raised last-minute concerns before the signing ceremony could take place. These focused on a letter, signed by Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan, informing Egypt that the Begin-As-Sadat joint letter on autonomy had been "approved" by the Israeli Kneset and Government.

The Dayan letter spoke of "Judeaea and Samaria," and it specified the Israeli view that autonomy would be granted only to the inhabitants, not to the territories. The Egyptians balked at the nomenclature, and also demanded a vaguer formulation on the terms of autonomy,

The Israeli delegation agreed to make some changes, but it was not clear last night whether these would also be effected by means of an additional letter of "clarification."

The Egyptians were also unhappy with the form of the Dayan letter, in that it spoke of "approval" of the joint letter on autonomy rather than of "ratification."

Unlike Egypt, Israel distinguished in this way between the treaty text, annexes, maps, interpretative letters and letter on exchange-of-ambassadors on the one hand and the autonomy letter on the other. The treaty and its various appendices were "ratified" by the Kneset and the Cabinet, and two instruments of ratification (one for the treaty text, the other for the appendices) were signed by President Yitzhaq Navon and countersigned by Foreign Minister Dayan. The joint letter on autonomy, on the other hand, was merely "approved" by the Kneset and the Cabinet. It carries no presidential instrument, but only a letter signed by Dayan.

The Israeli argument is that the autonomy letter is not legally linked to the treaty, and therefore need not have undergone the same ratification process. Moreover, the autonomy letter is no more than a natural extension of the Camp David "Framework for Peace in the Middle East," which was formally ratified, at the time, by the Kneset, Cabinet and president.

The Egyptians for their part make no such distinction. They also divided the treaty package into three parts--the text, the appendices, and the autonomy letter--but they accorded each part an identical process of, and instrument of, ratification.

Egypt regards the autonomy letter as an integral part of the treaty package, having been concluded and signed on the same day by the same persons.

Moreover, as Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali told the POST recently, the autonomy letter is itself a full-fledged treaty, since it begins with the formal, binding language "...Israel and Egypt have agreed."

Israeli sources said last night that Egypt had in fact agreed a fortnight ago, through U.S. mediation, to Israel's "approving" instead of "ratifying" the autonomy letter.

Nevertheless, the Egyptian delegation yesterday showed renewed concern about this apparent downgrading by Israel of the autonomy letter. They fired an interrogatory at Israeli legal aide Rosenne: Was the "approval" quite as valid and binding as a formal ratification? Why did Israel "approve" rather than "ratify"? Rosenne solemnly reassured the Egyptians that Israel intends fully to abide by its commitments undertaken in the autonomy letter.

FOREIGN MINISTRY DIRECTOR GENERAL RECALLED FROM TRIP

TA261102 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 26 Apr 79 p 1 TA

[By Yosef Harif]

[Text] Following the prime minister's decision to give the Foreign Ministry the task of dealing with the implementation of the peace agreement with Egypt, the director general of the Foreign Ministry, Yosef Ciechanover, has interrupted his trip abroad and, on the instructions of Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan, will return to Israel tomorrow.

The Foreign Ministry director general was due to go from Europe to Latin American in order to attend a meeting of Israeli ambassadors in that continent. After Begin's announcement, Dayan phoned Ciechanover and instructed him to return to Israel.

In a cable sent by the foreign minister to the prime minister, Dayan expressed his thanks for the warm remarks Begin made the day before yesterday in praising Dayan at the stormy Likud faction meeting, when rejecting the demands to dismiss Dayan.

GOVERNMENT TO PAY COMPENSATION IN BEDOUIN LANDS CASE

TA261332 Jerusalem POST in English 26 Apr 79 pp 1, 2 TA

[Excerpts] Attorney General Yitzhaq Zamir yesterday apologized in the High Court of Justice on behalf of the government, which, he admitted, had contravened its obligations to the court in the Lagiya Bedouin lands case.

The court made absolute the injunction granted last month to Salaman Abu Karen, forbidding any government authority or employee from entering or carrying out building work on land owned by Abu Karen or any member of his family.

Yesterday the court imposed \$5,000 court costs on the state and ordered that the sum of compensation to be paid to Abu Karen be negotiated by his counsel and the attorney general.

The court expressed its "deep appreciation" of the attorney general's work in carrying out a thorough investigation of the episode, in the face of possible pressures being brought to bear by individuals who wished to protect their associates or subordinates from disciplinary proceedings instituted against them as a result of their infringement of the injunction.

SALFIT, VILLAGES ASK UN TO INTERVENE AGAINST EXPROPRIATION

TA271038 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 27 Apr 79 TA

[Text] The Salfit municipality and three mukhtars of neighboring villages have asked the United Nations to interfere to cancel the expropriation of 3,000 donams of their land.

In a cable sent to the UN secretary general they said these lands provide their living. They have also sent similar cables to the defense minister and the commander of the Judaea and Samaria District. This land was expropriated in order to expand the settlement of Ari'el.

OFIRA SEVERS RELATIONS WITH DIRECTORS GENERAL

TA261100 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 26 Apr 79 p 4 TA

[By Eli Danon]

[Text] The committee of Ofira inhabitants decided last night, with the agreement of all the inhabitants, to cut off relations with the Directors General Committee appointed by Prime Minister Menahem Begin to deal with the affairs of the Ofira and Yamit inhabitants concerning the evacuation.

In a sharp letter sent by the chairman of the inhabitants committee, Ya'aqov (Berloy), to the president of the state, the prime minister and ministers and members of the Knesset, the reasons for the extreme decision are detailed:

"The principle of incorporating the inhabitants in the determination of their fate is not only a right springing from their being citizens of a democratic country, but also a political and moral duty springing from the very fact of the uprooting of these citizens from their homes," the letter points out.

According to the inhabitants, their nonincorporation in meetings of the committee is the main reason for severing relations with it. The Ofira inhabitants explain that they will not accept any arrangement or solution without their full participation.

The appeal to the prime minister emphasizes that treatment of the future of the authorization [as published] is filled with breaches of promises. "We have no alternative but to reject the work of the Directors General Committee out of hand."

The inhabitants committee calls on Begin to invite them to an urgent meeting with him in order to decide on ways to incorporate them in the future of the settlement and the settling of their fate (as required by the principles of morality and correct administration)."

The Gabay committee, headed by the director general of the Ministry of the Interior, Me'ir Gabay, has finalized the criteria for granting compensation to the inhabitants of Yamit and Ofira. Tomorrow Gabay will submit the committee's conclusions to the Directors General Committee headed by the director general of the prime minister's office, Eliyahu Ben-Elisar.

The criteria will be discussed by the Ben-Elisar committee and, at the end of the debate, will be made known to the inhabitants of Yamit and Ofira. Only after receiving their comments will a final position be formulated on this problem. The criteria are general in nature, but will be applied to all inhabitants of Yamit and Ofira, in accordance with their particular situation.

Gabay refused last night to go into detail about the criteria, but said: "The inhabitants will certainly receive suitable compensation."

QIRYAT ARBA' RESIDENTS PROTEST LOSS OF HILL

TA261652 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1445 GMT 26 Apr 79 TA

[Text] Hebron, 26 April--This morning, many women and children from Qiryat Arba' invaded the old Hadassa building near the Hebron market. They announced that Qiryat Arba' residents would take over all the buildings belonging to the ancient Hebron Jewish community in reaction to the handing over of "the Patriarchs' Hill" to the Arabs.

The reference is to a hill near Qiryat Arba' which the Arabs call Zumlat al-Ja'bariyah and the Qiryat Arba' residents call "the Patriarchs' Hill."

The ITIM correspondent reports that Zumlat al-Ja'bariyah had been allotted for the expansion of Qiryat Arba'. However, later, it was decided to cancel this plan. A notice to this effect was even submitted to the High Court of Justice this week because of the complaint filed by the Hebron municipality against the takeover of the hill. Following this, the Qiryat Arba' residents distributed a pamphlet in which they angrily claimed they would organize operations against the handing over of the hill to the Arabs.

The hill overlooks the entire town of Qiryat Arba' and, therefore, the residents regard its concession as a government security blunder.

The Hebron municipality claims that unknown people sawed off grape seedlings on the hill and has sent a letter of protest on this issue to the defense minister.

JORDAN TO EXTEND AID TO WEST BANK INSTITUTIONS

TA261626 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 26 Apr 79 TA

[Text] Jordan will give the Judaea and Samaria municipalities and other public institutions loans from the fund set up for Jordan and the PLO by the Baghdad conference participants. This was reported to mayors who have recently visited Amman. At the same time it has been learned that Jordan prevents the PLO members from intervening in the affairs of the municipalities. The mayors were informed that the aid will be given only for approved development plans as is now the case.

CALM PREVAILS ON NORTHERN BORDER 26 Apr

TA261821 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 26 Apr 79 TA

[Text] Our correspondents in the north reports that complete calm prevailed today in the settlements along the northern border and in the enclave area. The spokesman for the militias told our correspondent Yehezq'el Hame'iri that the cease-fire in the enclave was not reached through any settlement with the terrorists of the UN. He said the militias stopped firing because the terrorists stopped firing at the enclave. However, the militia spokesman said that they would not hold any contacts with the terrorists and that whenever the terrorists open fire the militias will return it. The spokesman also denied the UN announcement that the militias were preparing for an attack on the UN headquarters in An-Naqurah.

FOREIGN MINISTRY REPLIES TO AFGHAN ACCUSATIONS

LD262004 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Apr 79 LD

[Text] The following statement on Iranian-Afghan relations was issued today by the ministry of Foreign Affairs:

In His almighty name. Afghan officials made statements some time ago pertaining to the dispatch of 4,000 armed members of the Iranian armed forces into the territory of Afghanistan by the Provisional Government of the Iranian Islamic Revolution. By saying this the Afghan authorities aimed at neutralizing and portraying in a different light-- by claiming Iranian intervention--Afghan internal squabbles and conflicts which have arisen as a result of the people's opposition to the Afghan Government's measures against that country's religious authorities and ulema, and in fact in order to divert public attention.

Although the subject of Iran's intervention in the recent events in Afghanistan was immediately rejected officially and strongly, and the Afghan Government was openly asked to show the evidence for this feeble and baseless accusation--and this demand has so far been ignored and left unanswered--nevertheless foreign news agencies have reported that Mr Nur Mohammad Taraki has once again made statements about Iranian intervention in Afghanistan's internal affairs. In his statements he refers to the so-called intervention as playing with fire and threatens us with the consequences of an intervention to teach Iran a lesson.

The historic, cultural and traditional relations between the Iranian and Afghan societies, which have created an extremely strong and powerful foundation for the relations between the two countries, leave no place for any doubts about the need for increasingly strengthening these foundations. And on this basis the two Muslim, coreligionist Iranian and Afghan societies, by virtue of the historical needs of the times, are dutybound to support and safeguard the same.

A logical and natural corollary of the quality of these relations is to avoid saying anything which could disturb the spirit and nature of these relations. Attention to the realities of the situation and the facts mentioned demand that humanitarian and philanthropic sentiments stemming from just Islamic precepts should constantly be borne in mind. And it is for this reason that the repercussions of the reports and rumors about the recent developments in Afghanistan and the continuation of the massacres in that country, and particularly the misbehavior by Afghan Government officials toward the ulema and religious authorities which constitute an unquestionable violation of human rights, have given rise to natural and humanitarian reactions in the public opinion of Muslims, and particularly the ulema and religious authorities in Iran.

The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, which is on the threshold of using and developing its Islamic revolution, in view of the nature of the cordial relations between the two Muslim fraternal countries of Iran and Afghanistan and its observance of international traditions and standards, as it has repeatedly said, has had and has no intention of interfering in the internal affairs of countries, including Afghanistan. At this time it rightly expects complete mutual understanding from the Government of Afghanistan and is surprised by the inappropriate and baseless accusations levelled against it by that government's officials. It deems the continuation of this policy as an act which will undermine relations between the two countries.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran once again expresses deep regret at the recent statement by Afghan President Taraki which the news agencies have published and earnestly demands that in the future the Afghan authorities refrain from such deeds and from levelling such feeble accusations, which could only result in blocking the relations of the two countries. Instead of having recourse to such unfriendly or hostile matters, it asks the Afghan authorities to bear in mind the necessity of safeguarding the relations of good-neighborliness, which constitute one of the salient manifestations of the pressing needs of the time.

AFGHAN NATIONALS DEMONSTRATE AT SOVIET, AFGHAN EMBASSIES

LD261756 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Nearly 1,500 Afghan nationals residing in Iran, most of whom are immigrant workers and clergymen, have staged demonstrations in front of the Afghan and Soviet Embassies in Tehran. In some of the resolutions read before these two embassies, the demonstrators demanded independence and sovereignty for Afghanistan and its freedom from any dependence on foreign powers. The demonstrators also announced their solidarity with all Islamic fighters.

The demonstrators called on the international media and organizations to reflect the true nature of events taking place in Afghanistan. According to our reporter, all necessary measures were taken by guards and the Iranian Armed Forces to protect the Afghan Embassy. The demonstrators, having read their resolutions, left the embassy peacefully.

BAZARGAN ACCEPTS INVITATION TO VISIT LIBYA

LD261742 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Apr 79 LD

[Text] In a statement issued today by the Islamic Republic of Iran on the visit to our country of Major Jallud, it was announced that talks between the two countries were held in an atmosphere of goodwill. It added that in view of the fraternal friendly relations as well as the mutual religious and cultural ties which have existed between the two Muslim countries for some time, and in view of the similarity of the two great revolutions in Iran and Libya and their astonishing consequences in the Islamic world, the two countries have agreed to continue their direct contacts and maintain the two countries' policies, which pursue mutual aims in most cases, including the Middle East and support for the Palestinian people's rights.

The statement also adds that Prime Minister Bazargan has accepted an invitation from Libya to pay a visit to that country.

MESSAGE SENT TO LIBYA'S JALLUD ON IMAM AS-SADR

LD261900 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Apr 79 LD

[Text] The following telegram was sent today by the Ayatollah Tabataba'i Qomi from Mashhad to the Libyan premier in Tehran:

To his excellency the prime minister of Libya, Sheraton Hotel, Tehran:

The Muslim community knows that His Eminence Imam Musa as-Sadr arrived in your country at the invitation of the Libyan Government and that he was your guest. To date, we have no news of him, and this has caused great anxiety among world Muslims, especially the great ulema; they hold the Libyan Government responsible for this. As long as the community has no information about his safety, as long as he has not returned to Lebanon, the Iranian people cannot have friendly relations with your government.

(Signed) Holy city of Mashhad, 26 April 1979, Hasan Tabataba'i Qomi.

AYATOLLAH KHOMEYNI MEETS WITH COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

LD261930 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Apr 79 LD

[Text] This afternoon the Council of Ministers was received in Qom by the Imam Khomeyni. The purpose of the visit was to report to the Imam Khomeyni on the affairs of the country and to hold necessary talks. The meeting lasted about 1 hour.

KHOMEYNI DEFENDS TRIALS OF SHAH'S SUPPORTERS

LD262102 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Representatives of foreign women in Iran and the publishers of LALEH were received by Imam Khomeyni. The imam then made some remarks, saying [read by announcer]:

I thank the esteemed ladies who sympathized with us and the Iranian people during the tragic events which occurred in this country. However, I must point out to you, honorable ladies, that no one, you, us or anyone close to him, is fully aware of all the crimes committed by the shah. His crimes were committed at various levels. Some of them were obvious and known to all: these are the crimes, murders and tortures reported from prisons. Another series of crimes were only known by Cabinet ministers, the shah and his associates; these are crimes neither you nor we know anything about. Then there were crimes only known to the shah himself, crimes unknown to others.

We cannot even begin to understand the depth of the crimes committed by the father and the son. You may have lived in this country for 21-22 years, and we have spent all our lives in this country, we have spent a great part of our lives in this process, yet we cannot begin to comprehend the depth of these crimes. Nor is history capable of recording the shah's crimes. Only the things reported can be recorded. Many of the shah's crimes were covert; aside from himself, even individuals like Carter cannot know.

I thank you for establishing a society in sympathy with us. I thank you for your intention to publish reports about us. We are oppressed in this world, for the world supported the shah, the oppressor. All foreign governments, with the exception of a few, supported him. Even now our nation is being wronged, for foreign journalists have always lied, spread rumors about our revolution and misrepresented our nation.

Among the reports carried by the foreign press are those saying that the individuals executed are again disinterred by the Iranian people and torn to pieces. Have a look around, anywhere in Iran. If one corpse had been treated this way, then they can claim that everybody had been treated in such a manner.

But I know that foreign journalists are mostly mercenaries of these very same set ups. They saw the Iranian nation which staged an uprising, based on its faith, and cut short the hands of the masters; they cut short the hands of those who used to serve these people's interests. Subsequently, in order to seek revenge or reestablish the former situation and to serve their own interests, they have resorted to such propaganda.

All this propaganda is false. You only see the sentences of death issued; you should look at their records and cases and you will see that those who have been executed committed many crimes. They rendered 1 person, 10 or an entire nation helpless. During the past 50 years, these people subjected the entire nation to oppression. These people committed so many crimes that even if the revolutionary courts did not exist the people themselves would have killed them. It was these courts that controlled the people's emotions, a people who witnessed its young men's blood being shed in the streets on the order of these very individuals: the shah, Hoveyda and Nasiri. It is because of these events that the people cannot tolerate seeing them alive.

Those who talk of human rights and who make an uproar for people like Hoveyda and express sorrow and regret--are they really supporting human rights? Or are they supporting countries and superpower governments? If these people support human rights, then why is it that during the past 50 years, when humans in this country were being tortured and executed, when people were being tortured on hot plates and their limbs sawed off, none of them uttered a word? Why is it that only today they have begun to breathe? Today they are resorting to propaganda. Then what about those who were killed? Were they not human? Did they not have any rights? Is it not a human right to punish someone who commits murder? This is one of the human rights. But the fact of the matter is that human rights groups are in the service of superpowers. These groups making an uproar against the violation of human rights, these journalists and newspapermen who spread such falsifications under the name of love of humanity, are in the service of superpowers. They are violating human rights.

Having expressed my gratitude to you who have assembled in order to assess the situation in our country, I would like to call on you to study the situation in Iran as it is and reflect it accordingly.

Try to find out whether the Iranian people have disinterred the bodies of those who have massacred people and burned them. See for yourselves whether the question of seeking vengeance means inhumanity, or whether these people were sentenced to death after charges brought against them were proved and substantiated in courts. If it had not been for these courts, then the people themselves would have staged an uprising. Those who massacred people and caused the Rex Cinema incident in Abadan and burned nearly 400 human beings will be tried and executed. Ordinary people will not be executed; some 600 to 800 ordinary people have already been released. Those who have been freed committed trivial misdemeanors. Those sentenced to jail or death committed important crimes. You must enlighten foreigners and tell them that these journalists and the so-called supporters of human rights do not support human rights; they support the superpowers. Naturally, these people are not among the honorable people of Europe; they are a group of mercenaries. At any rate, I thank you for wanting to help our people in these complicated issues; propaganda assistance is a most important assistance. I thank you again. God bless you.

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IRAN

KHOMAYNI CANCELS APPOINTMENTS FROM 28 APRIL TO 4 MAY

ID262120 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 26 Apr 79 ID

[Text] The following statement was issued today by Imam Khomeyni's secretariat in Qom:

In the name of God. While expressing its gratitude and appreciation for the enthusiastic sentiments and warm and sincere feelings demonstrated by the Iranian people for the leader during his stay in Tehran and Qom in the form of personal meetings with him, during which our compatriots rushed to meet him from near and remote parts of the country, as well as from outside the country, the imam's secretariat announces that owing to an extremely crowded schedule and numerous appointments, as well as the extreme fatigue felt by the imam and the fact that attending to the country's problems and current issues require adequate time on his part, our countrymen who have appointments with the imam beginning Saturday, 28 April, are requested to postpone their meetings with the imam for 6 days, since the imam has ordered that from Saturday, 28 April, to Friday, 4 May, all private and public appointments be canceled. The secretariat sincerely thanks all brothers and sisters for their cooperation in giving their leader more opportunity to attend to the country's current affairs.

ETTELA'AT REPORTS ATTEMPTED HIJACKING AT TEHRAN AIRPORT

ID261808 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Apr 79 ID

[Text] ETTELA'AT has reported an attempted hijacking. It says: From 1900 to midnight last night, a red alert was in force in Mehrabad Airport in Tehran. The security forces and armed guards stationed at the airport arrested the armed criminals who were trying to hijack an aircraft from the airport.

Around 1900 last night several Tehran committees informed the airport that on the basis of some reports, a few terrorists were planning to attack the airport's main hall and after taking a few hostages to threaten the airlines officials and thus obtain an airplane to take them out of the country.

Having received the report, the security forces and the guards stationed at the airport took stringent security measures around the airport and its buildings and runways, with all the airport units being put on red alert. Following these measures, the unidentified persons at the airport were put under surveillance and then steps were taken to identify the terrorists. Minutes later the security officers managed to arrest two women, wearing black chadors and armed with Colt-45's. After their arrest, the two women were interrogated and were then handed over to one of the revolutionary committees, which had started a wide search hours earlier.

CEASE-FIRE IN NAQADEH SUCCESSFUL, REFUGEES TO RETURN

ID261418 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Apr 79 ID

[Excerpt] Talks have been held between good will delegations in the small township of Mohammad Yar in order to investigate the roots of conflict in Naqadeh and it is now expected that a meeting will be held in Urumiyeh between the governor general of the province and the representatives of the parties involved in the conflict. In a radio and television interview on refugees, 'Abbasi, the governor general of West Azarbayjan, said: The cease-fire has been completely observed, and we are planning to return refugees to their homes.

SHARI'AT-MADARI TO BE CONSULTED ON KORDESTAN

LD241825 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 24 Apr 79 LD

[Text] A meeting was held at Mahabad Municipal Hall this morning with the participation of Turkish and Kurdish representatives, as well as a number of local clergymen and trusted people. It was decided to report to Ayatollah Shari'at-Madari the developments in Kordestan and the future dangers threatening the region, and to request him to issue his instructions in the matter.

KURDISH, TURKISH HOSTAGES RELEASED IN MAHABAD

LD270846 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 27 Apr 79 LD

[Text] According to a telephone dispatch from our correspondent in Mahabad, as a result of efforts by Kurds and Turks in Naqadeh and the goodwill they have shown, 140 Turkish and 130 Kurdish hostages have so far been released. According to Mahabad's Islamic Revolution Council, there are no hostages whatsoever in Mahabad at present and efforts will be made toward the better treatment of non-Kurdish people than ever before; those who transgress against this will be dealt with in the most stringent way by the (?judicial) committee.

The Ayatollah Seyyed 'Ezzeddin Hoseyni, the Kurds' political and religious leader, has issued numerous statements emphasizing to all the political groups the friendship and brotherhood of the Kurdish and Azarbayjani peoples. These statements have referred to those who sow discord and disseminators of baseless rumors as enemies of God, Islam and all the oppressed people of Iran, and have called on the various groups of people to return to work as soon as possible and resume their activities.

NVOI DISCUSSES SAVAK, CIA PLOTS AGAINST REVOLUTION

TA261807 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 2100 GMT 17 Apr 79 TA

[Unattributed commentary: "The Remnants of SAVAK and Those of the Former Regime Should Be Obliterated"]

[Text] As we have stated many times, according to the testimony of newspapers, the enemies of revolution, thousands of bloodthirsty SAVAKists and thousands of CIA experts and agents [words indistinct] entered our country hurriedly and are lying in ambush in Iran. Now and then these individuals raise their heads in this or that city or province and try to inflict a deadly blow to the revolution. These SAVAKists and enemies of the revolution consider the revolutionary committees the best apparatus for their penetration and influence. Since the first days, and according to their plans, groups of these enemies dispersed into this and that part of our country, and through different methods found their way into these committees or became their members.

Also according to plans drawn up by people in charge, other groups of SAVAKists became active in underground groups of [word indistinct], and armed with (?modern weapons), these secret terrorist groups emerge at night in sensitive centers of freedom fighters and those who struggle for the independence of Iran. They continue their activity, following an irregular pattern in all parts of our country, although not as intensely now as during the first days of the revolution. Another secret group of SAVAKists and enemies of the revolution is busy sowing disunity by distributing various antinational and antifreedom publications among Iranian national forces, and by pitting religious and national factions against one another.

Recently, the SAVAKists have been and are still penetrating different parties. Their main goal is penetration of national and progressive parties such as the National and Democratic Front of Iran, the Tudeh Party of Iran, the National Front, the Democratic Union of Iranian People, the Mujahidin, etc, and they are (?sowing) disunity. It should also be borne in mind that for some time news about revival of SAVAK secret organization cadres and the serious danger they can inflict upon the revolution of the Iranian people has been discussed by social and political circles in our country. It was only recently that hundreds of active members of SAVAK gathered in front of the prime minister's premises and demanded the return of their prestige and duties. Assembly of such a big group of bloodthirsty SAVAKists at a precise time and at a specific place confirms, more than anything else, the accuracy of the news of the recreation of the SAVAK underground organization and the establishment of relations among its members and those active in it. An organization which is capable of gathering more than a thousand agents and functionaries to meet the prime minister can, naturally, use its power to inflict a blow against the achievements of the revolution and can penetrate religious, national and political organizations and committees and can influence personalities.

Billions of Tomans of the SAVAKists' budget have been cut off, but we know that the American CIA is supplying tremendous amounts of money in order to revive this American-sponsored organization. The deposed and homeless shah and tens and hundreds of plundering agents like him have appropriated huge sums of money in order to revive the underground SAVAK organization and to inflict a blow against our people's victorious revolution. In one of his interviews, His Eminence Ayatollah Taleqani stated that presently more than 8,000 SAVAK agents, in cooperation with CIA and Israeli agents, are lying in wait in secret cells in order to strike against Iran's revolution. All those who sacrificed their lives for the victory of Iran's revolution are asking the government of the provisional Islamic Republic of Iran to completely destroy the remnants of the SAVAK criminal organization and to put a final end to its conspiracies.

NVOI ON FIGHTING IN MAQADEH, NEED FOR PATRIOTIC ARMY

TA261747 [Editorial Report TA] The Clandestine National Voice of Iran in Azerbaijani to Iran at 1745 GMT on 24 April carries a commentary on the recent fighting in Naqadeh in Iranian Kordestan. The commentary, after noting that "a great number of our Azbarbayjani and Kurdish compatriots were killed and injured in the recent regrettable incidents in Naqadeh," says: "The Iranian revolution's enemies are not idle. They are always on the alert and are making use of every opportunity to create unrest in the country and difficulties for Iran's Islamic Republic's revolutionary government and to cause fratricidal strife. It is above all the national and progressive Kurdish forces and Kordestan's national and progressive forces, in short the entire people of Kordestan themselves, that should take a lesson from these incidents, and they should prevent the enemies of the revolution from causing strife among them by exploiting their minor differences."

After noting that "the leaders of the revolution, the revolutionary government and the entire Iranian people approve of and support Kordestan's legitimate rights," the commentary compares this with the situation which existed during the shah's reign and says: "During the Pahlavi dynasty's bloodshedding and corrupt regime the most basic rights of all our people, especially of our country's ethnic minorities, were violated, and millions of people were even deprived of the right to speak their own languages. Thanks to Iran's democratic, Islamic and anti-imperialist revolution, all chains of enslavement and oppression, including those of national oppression, have now been broken. During the rule of the overthrow antinational and fascist regime, the Kurdish people's leaders were harmed on the order of the detested and now homeless shah.

"A great deal of blood was shed in our Kordestan, simply because the Kurdish people were asking for the official recognition of their rights within the framework of Iran."

The commentary goes on: "In order to crush the Iranian peoples' democratic aspirations, the defunct bloodshedding regime used to accuse them of separatism, and, exploiting this untrue and cowardly accusation, used to violate their most basic rights and persecute the people's fighters. In addition, the defunct reactionary and bloodshedding regime kept a promising region such as Kordestan at the lowest level of social and economic development. It ignored the most elementary principle of patriotism: that by denying a particular region's social and economic progress, you actually obstruct the economic progress of the entire country."

On the rights demanded by the people of Kordestan, the commentary says: "In the determination of their fate the Kurdish people want all their rights respected. They want to enjoy all their legitimate national, social and cultural rights and their official recognition. They want these legitimate rights to be included in the constitution of the Islamic Republic. In fact this is a legitimate right which has been officially recognized by the leaders of the Iranian revolution. The revolution's leaders have clearly stated that they recognize the rights of the people, including the Kurdish people, to determine their own destinies within the framework of Iran and to benefit from all national, social and cultural organs."

The commentary says: "In a speech delivered recently at the (Fayziyah) school in Qom, His Holiness Ayatollah Taleqani confirmed that the Kurdish people want nothing more than administering their local affairs, and that this is their legitimate right and also one of the Iranian revolution's aims. Currently in our country all national and progressive parties, organizations and councils are exercising this just and legitimate right."

"Our country's ethnic and national leaders, Iran's Democratic National Front, the Tudeh Party, the National Front of Iran, the Democratic Union of the Iranian People, Cherikhav-ye Feda'i-ye Khalq and Mujahidin Khalq, and various other national and political organizations have announced that they support the rights of our country's peoples within the framework of Iran. In view of all this, all national and progressive forces in all parts of the country, and especially in Kordestan, should devote their concern and efforts to the creation of a secure and appropriate climate needed for the realization of their aspirations, and to help the Islamic Republic's revolutionary government in this task."

The commentary goes on to warn: "But as you are aware, the enemies of the revolution, the remnants of SAVAK and hundreds of Iranian and U.S. agents of the CIA, are not even refraining from causing bloodshed in various parts of the country, including Kordestan, by exploiting certain disagreements among various groups. One should not forget, even for a single moment, that the enemies of the revolution are always busy preparing plots and conspiracies against the revolutionary achievements not only in Iran but also outside of the country."

The commentary concludes: "SAVAKists and the CIA's Iranian and U.S. agents are working day and night to implement the plans of their masters overseas by changing their identities and their places of abode. They want to create discord and pessimism among the people and also distrust toward the government. They want to create confrontation between the people and the national and revolutionary government, and civil strife and national conflict. The aspirations of our country's peoples and of ethnic minorities can only be fulfilled by protecting the revolution's achievements and foiling the plots and conspiracies of the enemies of the revolution."

The radio then carries a commentary referring to 18 April Army Day. The commentary says that the people throughout the country "celebrated the day with great joy." It says this was because "the people did not forget the function of the army during the hated monarchic regime's rule." It says: "The Army Day was also marked during the now homeless shah's reign. Although the shah always tried to present the army as the guardian of Iran's national and territorial independence and integrity, the fact was that, at his direction, the army became the Pentagon's instrument, each day losing more of its independence."

After claiming that "the United States imposed on Iran a number of military agreements and CENTO," the commentary says: "The army's task was to protect Mohammad Reza and the interests of the United States and of a handful of robbers. The country's people were aware of this and did not lower the standard of struggle for liberation."

The commentary concludes: "Now on the wreckage of the ousted shah's army a national army--an army dedicated to freedom and democracy and composed of patriots devoted to freedom and revolution--must be established. There can be no doubt that our country's people want an army which will protect the country's independence and territorial integrity, and an army capable of protecting the revolutionary achievements and of foiling the antirevolutionary plots and conspiracies of the remnants of the ousted regime and of imperialism headed by U.S. imperialism."

AFGHANISTAN

DELHI RADIO: TARAKI SAYS 2,700 AFGHANS KILLED IN IRAN

EK271025 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1000 GMT 27 Apr 79 BK

[Text] The president of Afghanistan, Mr Nur Mohammad Taraki, has again accused Iran and Pakistan of interfering in the internal matters of his country. Mr Taraki said that more than 2,700 Afghan nationals have been killed in Iran.

According to Radio Kabul, monitored in Islamabad, the Afghan president has lodged a protest with the Iranian Government. Mr Taraki accused Pakistan of harboring the Afghan Muslim rebels under influence of imperialism.

INDIA

VAJPAYEE RETURNS, COMMENTS ON U.S. TALKS

EK270403 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 27 Apr 79 BK

[Text] The external affairs minister, Mr Vajpayee, has said that he impressed on President Carter to have a second look on the future of supplies of enriched uranium for the Tarapur plant.

Mr Vajpayee was talking to newsmen at the Delhi airport last night on his return from Washington. Mr Vajpayee said that he also stressed that a more practical approach to the question of supplies should be adopted. He said the dialog with the United States on the uranium supplies is to continue. The external affairs minister described his 3-day visit to the United States as very useful. Topics of his discussions there included Pakistan's nuclear program and a move to station a new U.S. fleet in the Indian Ocean.

Mr Vajpayee said that Mr Carter had told him that supplies of enriched uranium to India after 1980 would be a problem, but he had given an assurance about his administration's help in getting the next installment of 19.6 tons.

About the meeting of the India-U.S. joint commission, which he co-chaired, Mr Vajpayee said that the discussions were fruitful. The two countries have agreed to establish a fourth subcommission on agriculture. The subcommissions on education, culture, science and technology have been doing useful work.

Report on Talks

EK261552 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 1426 GMT 26 Apr 79 BK

[Text] Both India and the United States share the assessment that the motivations of Pakistan's nuclear programme are far from peaceful, reports PTI. The view has emerged following wide-ranging discussions Minister of External Affairs Atal Bihari Vajpayee had with U.S. leaders on Pakistan's plans, already in progress, to build a secret plant to make nuclear explosives.

Vajpayee ended his 4-day official visit to Washington on 25 April with another round of talks with Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and President Carter's National Security Adviser Brzezinski. Deputy Secretary of State Warren Christopher also joined the talks at the State Department. On the Indian side were Ambassador Palkhivala and Foreign Secretary Jagat Mehta.

Vajpayee told the U.S. leaders that democratic public opinion in India was against the formation of a nuclear weapons free zone in South Asia if China was going to be excluded. U.S. support for such a zone at the United Nations, especially after the Indian Government's principled declaration not to make nuclear weapons, was unfortunate. The United States must take into account sensibilities in India.

Two other points were repeatedly made by Vajpayee: that the induction of more arms or the formation of new power alignments could not add to stability or reduce international tensions.

Future supplies of uranium for Tarapur were again brought up, and Vance assured Vajpayee that his department would pursue further its recommendation to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for clearance of the next shipment of 19.8 tonnes of enriched uranium. Vajpayee urged quick determination by the United States on disposal of spent plutonium in storage in India. The U.S. side agreed to do so.

Other main topics discussed on Wednesday extensively were demilitarisation of the Indian Ocean, "SALT II" negotiations between Moscow and Washington, Rhodesian "elections" and prevention of nuclear nonproliferation (as received).

Vajpayee raised the question of the reported U.S. decision to station its 5th Naval Fleet in the Indian Ocean, pointing out that the move would lead to Soviet naval reinforcements, thereby increasing tension and jeopardising the UN goal of making the Indian Ocean a zone of peace. He also urged early resumption of talks between Moscow and Washington on demilitarisation of the Indian Ocean.

Vance reportedly informed him that no decision had been made on keeping the 5th Fleet in the Indian Ocean. The U.S. hoped to resume talks with Moscow on the Indian Ocean as soon as agreement was reached on the "SALT II" treaty. In the meantime, Vajpayee urged neither side should aggravate the situation by deploying more forces.

On recent Rhodesian elections, Vajpayee said these elections were neither free nor fair and the United States should resist pressures to withdraw some of the sanctions imposed against the Ian Smith government under the Security Council resolutions. The U.S. side said it was collecting information on the elections and, meanwhile, was resisting pressure for ending sanctions.

VAJPAYEE ON U.S. NAVAL PRESENCE IN INDIAN OCEAN

BK270750 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 27 Apr 79 BK

[Text] The littoral states of the Indian Ocean will meet in July to consider measures for making the ocean a zone of peace. Giving this information during the question hour in the Rajya Sabha today, the external affairs minister said the Soviet Union has agreed to attend the meeting as an observer. The conference is convened by the UN ad-hoc committee on the Indian Ocean.

Mr Vajpayee said that during his recent visit to the United States he has conveyed India's concern over the reported strengthening of the American naval presence in the Indian Ocean. The U.S. authorities, however, maintained that no decision has been taken in this regard.

MEITEI EXTREMISTS KILL 4 BORDER SECURITY SOLDIERS

BK261708 Hong Kong AFP in English 1702 GMT 26 Apr 79 BK

[Text] New Delhi, 26 Apr (AFP)--Four personnel of the Indian Border Security Force (BSF) were shot dead in a surprise attack by members of the underground tribal Meitei extremist movement in the northeastern frontier state of Manipur at its capital Imphal this afternoon.

Reports, quoting eye-witnesses, said that the B.S.F men were standing in front of their jeep, parked in a market place, when a three-member group of the extremists came closer and suddenly fired at the victims. The gang soon after got into the jeep and drove off.

The extremists have been leading a campaign for independence of Manipur till about ten years ago when it almost fizzled out. However, there have been some occasional violent incidents involving them in the recent past, indicating a revival of their activities. Earlier reports showed that a feeling among the native Meitei tribals of being dominated by migrants from other states is the main motivating cause behind the movement.

NEPAL

ISRAELI FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES ON 4-DAY VISIT

BK261558 Katmandu External Service in English 1450 GMT 26 Apr 79 BK

[Text] The Israeli foreign minister, Moshe Dayan, has arrived in Katmandu on a 4-day visit to Nepal at the invitation of his majesty's government. He was received at Tribhuvana Airport by the minister of education, works and transport, Mr Pashupati Shamsher Rana, and the minister of state for foreign affairs, Mr Krishna Prasad Pant.

Airport Comments

OW261909 Hong Kong AFP in English 1815 GMT 26 Apr 79 OW

[Excerpts] Katmandu, 26 Apr (AFP)--Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan, accompanied by his wife, arrived here late this afternoon on the first leg of his five-nation Asian tour.

Talking briefly to newsmen at the airport, Mr. Dayan said, "The main purpose of my visit is a good will mission. However, this will give me an opportunity to exchange views with Nepalese leaders on the situation in this part and in our part of the world."

He said, "We have just concluded a treaty with Egypt after 31 years of state of war. We thought it worthwhile to visit this part of the world and discuss and answer questions as how we will go on with this treaty".

"I hope this visit would give us opportunity to renew the contacts with your leaders and listen to their views," Mr Dayan added.

Although President Zalman Shazar visited Nepal in 1963, no Israeli foreign minister has ever previously done so, observers recalled.

During his four-day visit, Mr Dayan is scheduled to meet with King Birendra, besides holding talks with Nepalese Prime Minister K.N. Bista who also holds the foreign portfolio. Before his departure for Burma on Sunday, he is scheduled to address a press conference.

Education Minister, Dayan Speeches

BK270915 Hong Kong AFP in English 0820 GMT 27 Apr 79 BK

[Text] Katmandu, 27 Apr (AFP)--Nepalese Education Minister Pashupati Shumshere Rana has said he hoped that the peace treaty recently concluded between Israel and Egypt will mark the "beginning towards achieving a just, permanent and durable peace in the region."

Speaking at the formal dinner given in honour of visiting Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan last night, Mr. Rana said, "Nepal has been watching the recent developments in the Middle East with keen interest. For the past three decades the countries of your region have not experienced real peace. The Arab-Israeli conflict has been one of the most difficult problems of our time".

Mr. Rana added, "Nepal has always welcomed peace moves initiated from quarters and is of the firm belief that such moves must take into account all aspects of the situation with a view towards achieving a permanent and comprehensive peace in the interest of all concerned".

"It has been Nepal's constant hope and endeavour that there should be a comprehensive settlement of the Israeli-Arab conflict in order to assume world peace and contribute towards the relaxation of international tension," Mr. Rana further added.

Gen. Dayan in his reply appealed to Nepal to petition the nonaligned nations "to understand Israel and Egypt" and be in sympathy and helpful to "our mission for peace".

While referring to the present situation in the Middle East, Gen. Dayan said, "I don't know whether you are aware of all the problems and difficulties both countries--Egypt and ourselves--had and still have to go through in order to achieve the Egypt-Israel treaty to turn away from war to establish peace and normal relations."

According to the text of Mr. Dayan's speech, which was released here this morning, the Israeli foreign minister added, "We have formally accepted to withdraw from entire country that we kept for eleven years in Sinai, to remove Israeli settlements and towns, and from a security point of view, to take a very heavy risk by pulling all the way back and leaving the area which controls not only the Israeli borders but our security".

"Still we think it is worthwhile, in order to have peace with the neighbour", Gen. Dayan added.

Referring to the post Egypt-Israel treaty reaction from the Arab world, which cut off diplomatic relations and called back its ambassadors posted in Egypt, Gen. Dayan noted, "President as-Sadat holds fast now by really deciding to go on this way because he is convinced that it is not only the best but the only way for all Arab countries, and especially for Egypt, to stop that policy of wars."

"Mr. as-Sadat now wants to have this relationship with us," he added.

"I am asking you not to be on our side, but to be on the side of peace and courage, calling countries to sit down (at the) negotiation table on the grounds and basis of (U.N.) Security Council resolutions 242 and 338 without any preconditions," Mr. Dayan further added.

"Nepal, though not the richest (country) in the world, has a reputation of her own in taking her independent decision as an independent country," Gen. Dayan concluded.

PAKISTAN

HAQ GREETES TARAKI ON AFGHAN REVOLUTION ANNIVERSARY

BK270213 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0100 GMT 27 Apr 79 BK

[Text] President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq has sent a message of congratulations and best wishes to President Nur Mohammad Taraki on the occasion of the first anniversary of the Afghan revolution, which is being observed today.

The president expressed good wishes for progress and prosperity of the fraternal Afghan people.

NUCLEAR REPROCESSING PLANT DISCUSSED WITH FRANCE

OW230001 Hong Kong AFP in English 2346 GMT 22 Apr 79 OW

[Text] Islamabad, 22 Apr (AFP)--President Ziaul Haq said today talks were going on with France about building a nuclear reprocessing plant in Pakistan.

Speaking to farmers at Khawwal, about 350 miles (560 kms) south of here, the president also said that Pakistan would not allow other countries to decide on its priorities.

His remarks came two weeks after the United States cut off aid to Pakistan because it feared it was planning to build an atomic bomb.

President Zia said today that as an independent country, Pakistan would never allow other nations to decide what its requirements were in any particular field.

He said that Indian Prime Minister Morarji Desai had written to him suggesting that Pakistan was heading towards the building of nuclear plants. But President Ziaul said Pakistan was simply entering the field to use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes.

The Pakistani leader said there had been no positive response by India to his proposal to make the region a nuclear-free zone by bringing all nuclear reactors there under international safeguards.

President Ziaul also said that experimental drilling for oil was going on in four places in Pakistan and that they would yield positive results.

He said the oil content of deposits discovered at Dhodek in the Punjab had increased, and there was a possibility that six other sites in the country might yield oil.